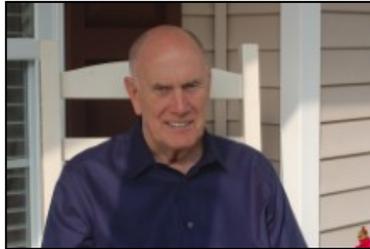


*Serving Current and Retired
Federal Employees*

June 2015 Volume 52-Issue 1

**Federation President
Gail Peapples
gpeapples@sc.rr.com**



Well it is a new year, with new people in new positions. To say the least it has been and will be a learning experience. Thank you to everyone that is helping me get a running start. It far exceeds the experiences of my 20s and 30s when I was President of a Jaycees chapter, and one of the founders and President of a private volunteer ambulance group. Those times were demanding also; just no e-mail to keep up with, only pagers.

Recent additional items include the selection of Federation Vice Chairs for their respective Congressional districts. John Geiger remains as Federation Chairman for both Federal and State legislation. The complete list of Vice Chairs for Federal legislation contact information is shown elsewhere in this newsletter. If your respective Vice Chair has not contacted your Chapter Legislative Officers, you should determine the Congressional District contact for your chapter and contact them. This should be the contact for chapters to obtain newest items on legislative agendas and a way to meet and talk to your Congressperson(s).

There is one new proposal on my agenda that, while not originally mine, we as the Federation feel might be something that could be helpful. This is to combine the NARFE Region III training and our own Federation Convention. There are details to work out and I must get answers from National and Regional to pursue the project. Hopefully this will take place during my trip to The National Training of Federation Presidents Convention in July. This is a four day session that informs Federation Presidents about National objectives.

Due to the requirement for answers to projects in general, time is too short before I leave for training. Upon my return we will strive for a Federation Board, plus Chapter Presidents' meeting in the July/August range, probably between July 20th and August 20th.

Membership recruitment is a great goal to attain. We must work hard to find ways to encourage new people or those that are not attending meetings. Find ways for attending members to be useful in your Chapters. Add greeters, name badge writers, assistants to help those setting up the room or helping the speakers get ready. Add helpers to assist those with disabilities to obtain snacks or luncheon items and good seating.

(see Peapples at top of next column)

**Peapples
(continued from 1st column)**

While I do not like being negative, we must face the fact that four chapters are being closed. Two are completed and two to go. I'm sure the chapters who are receiving the members from the closed chapters will make them feel welcome and be sure that they have opportunities to use their skills in their new chapter. Closing is the last thing for a chapter to do, however, if all else fails we must go through the process.

Thanks to all that step up to the plate. My gratitude goes out to all that work hard for the NARFE goal. We must protect ourselves. Have a great summer.

**Immediate Past Federation
President
Kathryn Hensley
kathrynhensley@hotmail.com**



It seems like only yesterday that past president Bill Jaillet called in January 2013 to inform me that because of a severe medical problem, he would be unable to continue as Federation President. Serving as Federation President was never my plan and now, I have completed 2 years and 4 months. Like many of our chapter and federation officers though, without some of us being willing to serve, our NARFE organization would certainly falter.

We've survived my "accidental" presidency.

- The 2013, 2014, and 2015 state conventions were a success and held in different parts of the state.
- While our membership and that of all the other states has been decreasing as our members age and the federal workforce has downsized, we have exerted extra efforts to slow our statewide losses. If you have not signed up for dues withholding, please do so.
- We were active in responding to the Future of NARFE proposals and many of our recommendations were instrumental in leading to a more strategic approach to changes that have been proposed for NARFE.
- Twenty five SC members attended the National Convention in Orlando in 2014 with 100% of our chapters represented by attendees or chapter proxies.
- I met with members in 12 of the 17 active chapters and found that each of the chapters had a full slate of officers, but many were also serving in other positions.

(see Hensley at top of next page)

Hensley (continued from page 1)

- At the Federation level, our finances have remained fairly constant and we have spent more of our funds to provide registration fees for member attendance at the Legislative Conference and regional Leadership Conference.
- Our chapters raise a lot of money for the Alzheimer's research program, but we need to increase our individual contributions to the NARFE FEEA scholarship and disaster programs.
- We have had two grandchildren of South Carolina NARFE members who have been awarded FEEA scholarships.
- For the first time, we now have a NARFE Legislative Committee with a Vice Chair from every Congressional District.
- We accomplished a major update of federation guidelines.
- Our Federation Alzheimer's Chair has been appointed to be the Alzheimer's Coordinator for Region III.

Sadly though, we had four inactive chapters in the South Carolina federation that had problems with a full slate of officers and regular meetings for a number of years. After working with them and finding they would not be able to survive, by the end of June, all four will have been closed and their members transferred to other chapters nearby.

I am leaving you with a story one of my favorite NARFE chapter presidents included in our newsletter a few years ago. Let's realize our full potential to work for NARFE's future.

"This is a story about four people named **Everybody**, **Somebody**, **Anybody**, and **Nobody**. There was an important job to be done and **Everybody** was asked to do it. **Everybody** was sure **Somebody** would do it. **Anybody** could have done it, but **Nobody** did it. **Somebody** got angry about that, because it was **Everybody's** job. **Everybody** thought **Anybody** could do it but **Nobody** realized that **Everybody** wouldn't do it. It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done."

Thank you for all your help and saying "yes" when I called upon you! I will continue to serve the Federation for one more year as Treasurer, but I leave the leadership to my successor, Gail Peapples from the Summerville chapter, who is committed to increase the participation of every member. I hope that as he travels to various chapters, you will welcome him and commit to expanding your activities.

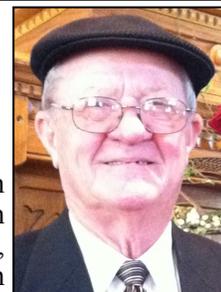


WEB SITES

South Carolina Federation www.scnarfe.org
or NARFE www.narfe.org

SC Federation of Chapters Newsletter
Editor: Bob Shear
Email: robertshear.narfe87@hotmail.com
Phone: 803-386-2027

Federation Vice President Morgan Hill hillmorjoy@cs.com



We continually hear the message from NARFE national headquarters, South Carolina federation, and chapters: recruit, recruit, recruit; and we must be diligent in our efforts to recruit because this is the lifeblood for our chapters.

Recruitment is not something that we can do every now and then; we must be constant and consistent in our efforts. Although your chapter may have a recruitment coordinator, each member should be constantly looking for an opportunity to talk with a potential member, or someone who has let his or her membership expire. Deb and I frequently wear our NARFE pins, and we have people asking us about NARFE. Your chapter may also set up a booth at a local festival. There are opportunities for us in our respective communities, but we have to look for them.

Once we make contact with a potential member or reinstatement eligible, we must follow up on our initial contact. Sometimes that may mean that we call, write, email, or invite them to a chapter meeting. It may take as long as a year to get results from your efforts. Don't be overbearing but don't give up after one or two contacts. Remember, NARFE is the only membership organization solely dedicated to protecting and preserving the benefits of all federal employees and retirees. Each potential member should be informed that NARFE needs him/her to strengthen our message to Congress, fortify our national outreach, and demonstrate our dedication to protecting our hard-earned benefits & reputation of all federal workers and retirees.

Federation FEEA Coordinator Margaret Baptiste margaretbaptiste@comcast.net

Please remember your fellow members and their families by donating to the NARFE-FEEA Disaster and Scholarship funds. This year many members have had their lives disrupted by



tornadoes and floods and hurricane season is also already here and we can help others as they help us.

Scholarship applications are also being completed and will soon be ready for judging and receiving awards and this is a way we can help our younger relatives. Please consider making a donation to NARFE-FEEA and mailing your donation to Margaret Baptiste, 1593 Cambridge Lakes Drive, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464 so it can be recorded and we have a total for donations from SC.

Federation Legislative Chair
John Geiger
jjgeiger@aol.com



With the Congress in session, under Republican control, direct threats to the interests of the Federal Family seemed to have been delayed for now with the Budget Resolution agreed to in May. But the Cyber Breach, the hacking of the sensitive information of Federal Employees and Retirees at the Office of Personnel Management by the Chinese, has everyone's attention. Unfortunately, South Carolina citizens already have years of experience dealing with their own breach with the Department of Revenue, and for certain Federal Agencies this is not their first experience of data theft. Note two key links provided by Sarah Weissmann in her excellent Regional calls of last week appear in paragraph 3, for you to follow the progress while awaiting official Agency or OPM notification.

1. Budget Resolution early last month: Recall that a Budget breakthrough occurred early last month with the Senate passed budget agreement, the first one since 2009 (ref. Wall Street Journal A4, Wed. May 6). The vote was 51-48 (both our Senators voted for) which reflected deep cuts to eliminate deficits in the next 10 years, the sequester still in place, with a supplemental war fund not subject to those curbs. This Budget Resolution set spending levels for the 12 appropriations bills (note that budget resolutions don't go to the President for signature; "reconciliation" means legislation passes both Houses with a simple majority vote). Federal Employee provisions were left out of the FY2016 Budget Blueprint, BUT we have to be vigilant as they may appear again (e. g. the \$193 billion in programs that are under the direction of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee). Budget fight could extend to Highway funding (just renewed at the end of May), raising the Debt ceiling, and/or the next Continuing Resolution. The absence of Federal Employee provisions in this Resolution may reflect the success of our grassroots advocacy—those emails, letters and visits of NARFE members and those of our coalition partners.

2. Fiscal Year 2016 Appropriations Update: The House voted Tuesday, June 9, on fiscal year (FY) 2016 funding for the Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The \$55.3 billion spending bill includes funding for Amtrak and the Washington, DC, Metro system, and lifts the provisions restricting travel to Cuba. The bill also includes next-year funding levels for the Highway Trust Fund, whose authorization now expires in July. On Thursday, June 11, the House passed a \$579 billion appropriation for the Department of Defense on a 278-149 vote. The bill includes a 2.3 percent pay raise for military personnel. The bill drew opposition from Democrats because it uses war-fighting accounts to raise defense spending for FY 2016, avoiding congressional spending caps. The Senate companion bill has passed the Senate Appropriations Committee. To date, the House has passed half of the 12 annual appropriations bills.

While the Senate Appropriations Committee is making progress, the full Senate has not yet considered any of the funding bills. The Congress will be in recess June 27 – July 6 (July 4 is a Saturday), otherwise is scheduled to be in session until the start of the 5-week August recess (an excellent opportunity to schedule and plan for a visit).

3. The Cyber Breach: From the Sarah Weissmann's Protect America's Heartbeat calls of last week (be sure to click on OPM website link below):

All of the information available to NARFE has been posted and highlighted on the NARFE web site — www.narfe.org. OPM also has a special page [OPM Security Breach] on their [website](#) where they are posting updates. As per the June 13, 2015, Hotline, NARFE members should regularly check the OPM Security Breach page for updates. NARFE is also including news articles on the breach in our daily clips e-mail. If you do not already receive the daily clips e-mail, please contact Carolyn Dorf [Legislative Department, Hqs] at cdorf@narfe.org.

Note that Cong. Joe Wilson (R-2d District) has introduced a bill entitled the Cyber Attack Standards Study Act. If passed, this bill would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the FBI, and Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct a study to “define a method for quantifying a cyber incident to determine an appropriate response.”

4. Two Congressional hearings occurred last month of NARFE interest. Be sure to click on links that follow. The first was a [hearing](#) on Federal Employees Compensation Act, the federal employees' version of workers compensation. NARFE supports the recommendations relating to program integrity but opposes any proposal to reduce benefits once people reach retirement age. NARFE expects some FECA proposals to be included in the budget reconciliation package later this summer. The second the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs subcommittee [hearing](#) on civil service reform (refer NARFE [letter](#) with recommendations submitted prior to the hearing). No specific legislation was discussed or introduced as a result of the hearing (standby). We received an interesting talk at the March Legislative Training Conference on Civil Service Reform conducted by Max Stier who heads up the Partnership for Public Service, a Reform think tank that has been in existence for a number of years. FYI, the presentation can be found at:

http://www.narfe.org/pdf/legconf15_Final%20NARFE%20Presentation%20-%20Max%20Stier.pdf

Finally, the South Carolina Legislature adjourned without a budget and will resume its work on the budget 16-17 June in response to Governor Nikki Haley's actions on bills pending her approval. Thanks for your continued interest and legislative advocacy at a time when the Congress continues to view the Federal Community as a bill-payer for reducing the deficit, requiring us to be vigilant to protect our pay, pension and benefits.

District Field Officer #1
Howard Graham
wellweathered@reagan.com



I was elected District One DFO at the South Carolina Federation Convention in April 2015. I attended the chapter meetings of all three Chapters in District One in May. All chapters of course are plagued by diminishing numbers of members. **Summerville Chapter 1082** has all positions filled except for Secretary. Their meeting was well attended (27 members) and the chapter seems quite active. **Charleston Chapter 1013** had a lively, well attended meeting and the chapter seems active. But like too many of our chapters, Chapter 1013 suffers with officers that have been forced to serve too long and now many positions need filling. **North Charleston Chapter 072** has a real problem with attendance to their meeting. They also have members that have held the same positions for a long time.

District Field Officer #2
Dennis Kern
dfkern@me.com



Personal: Most of you have never heard of me before because I have been a NARFE member for only a little more than a year, and had not participated in any Federation or Chapter activities until the Convention in April. I was introduced to NARFE last year by my friend and traveling buddy, Don Binder, who was PAC coordinator of his west coast Federation. Don passed away a few weeks ago, but I know that he would be pleased that I will honor his legacy with service to NARFE. And, there can be no doubt that Ernest Williams is pleased with my election to succeed him as DFO #2. Everyone tells me that if I do the job half as well as he has, it will be twice as good as they expect of me.

Columbia Chapter 87, Robert Shear, President I have now had the pleasure of attending two meetings of Chapter 87, which is a robust and active group, with a number of new members coming in from the Sumter chapter, which was recently declared defunct, and my brother, Pat, who attended a meeting and was treated with such warmth that he joined right away. I will provide more comprehensive news of Chapter 87 in the future.

Orangeburg Chapter 1170, Luther Sumpster, President As reported previously by Ernest, our Orangeburg chapter is nearing termination. A meeting is to be held soon with interested membership to vote on a course of action. Should they decide to struggle on, every assistance will continue to be given, but it is expected that the Chapter will close, and those members who wish to do so will join other chapters of their choosing.

Aiken Chapter 934, Robert Johnson, President The Aiken Chapter continues to function robustly, but the number of members attending meetings has dwindled to a handful of stalwarts, and President Robert Johnson continues to seek ways to boost participation. I have promised to help in any way possible, and look forward to visiting with the membership at the end of their summer break, if not before.

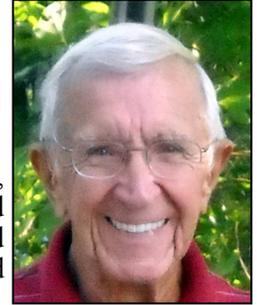
District Field Officer #3
Robbie Ann White
robbieannwhite@yahoo.com

Anderson's Electric City Chapter is now on leave for the summer.

The Clemson Chapter is temporarily meeting at The Light House on Lake Keowee, end of Doug Hollow Rd., Seneca, SC. They meet the first Wednesday of each month, 11:30 AM for lunch and have a speaker after the meal. Attendance remains between 15 and 20 members. The Clemson Chapter has a table at the Newcomers Club which will resume in August. There are future events which are in their plans.

September is a cookout/covered dish held at Biggerstaff Park, end of Biggerstaff Rd., Seneca, on Lake Keowee also. This is also a political event for the Chapter. The area State Congressmen and Federal House and Senate members are invited. In 2014 we had representatives from Rep. Duncan's office and Senator Scott's office. Also in attendance were SC Senators Alexander and Martin. S C Federation officers and chapters are invited to attend the Biggerstaff Event. Formal invitations will be sent at a future date.

District Field Officer #4
Robert Muller
bobmuller62@msn.com



District 4 is comprised of two chapters, **Greenville 121**, with 121 voting and five non-voting members, and **Spartanburg 560**, with 65 voting and four non-voting members.

Good news... Mr. Bill Green, a Greenville Chapter member, was one of the prize winners of the Alzheimer's Raffle at the Federation Convention. Past President Kathy Hensley delivered his prize in May. He was pleased that the chapter meetings are now in Simpsonville which is very close to his home in Fountain Inn and he's looking forward to attending the chapter meetings.

I attended the May meeting of both chapters, introducing myself as the new 2015 DFO4 for their chapters. I've worked on Federation Conventions with them when each of the two Chapters hosted the Annual Conventions in the past, so I was not an unfamiliar person to them. I enjoyed myself at each one and will probably continue to attend both of their meetings for the remainder of the year. Both chapters have a full complement of officers and each has a new President for this year. I also volunteered to serve as Vice-President of Chapter 121 for 2015. These two chapters take the summer off so the next meeting for both will be the September meeting. The Greenville Chapter had suggested that they invite the Spartanburg Chapter to have a joint holiday luncheon meeting with them in December and enjoy a Christmas social get-together of the two chapters. This was brought up at the May Spartanburg Chapter meeting and was accepted. Although both chapter meetings were small in number they have good support from those attending.

NEW LEGISLATIVE VICE CHAIRS ANNOUNCED

After searching for individuals to assist our Federation Legislative Chair, John Geiger, with a more localized federal legislative program, we now have a full slate of helpers. The Federation Vice Chairs for Federal Legislation are:

Congressional District 1 (Rep. Mark Sanford): Paul Russo, Chapter #2258 Hilton Head and Bluffton, continuing. pauldots@flash.net

Congressional District 2 (Rep. Joe Wilson): William Toney, Chapter #87 Columbia, continuing. wtoney@sc.rr.com

Congressional District 3 (Rep. Jeff Duncan): Harry Brown, Chapter #825, Anderson, continuing. harry_bro@msn.com

Congressional District 4 (Rep. Trey Gowdy): Virginia Jenkins, Chapter #560, Spartanburg, new. vjenkins922@gmail.com

Congressional District 5 (Rep. Mick Mulvaney): George Goings, Chapter #560, Spartanburg, new. goingsgr@aol.com

Congressional District 6 (Rep Jim Clyburn): William Toney, Chapter #87 Columbia, continuing. wtoney@sc.rr.com

Congressional District 7 (Rep Tom Rice): Cathy Linta Leader, Chapter #1015, Myrtle Beach, new. clintaleader@yahoo.com

Some chapters have members in more than one Congressional District. In that case, Chapter Legislative Officers should be sure they are aware that they may have more than one Vice Chair to use as a resource. Local meetings with the Congresspersons is encouraged and Vice Chairs can help make those happen.

2015 Convention Picture

John Geiger, on the right, speaks with his South Carolina Senator, Tom Young, Jr., R-District 24, during a state house visit held in conjunction with the 2015 convention.

The Federation was recognized during Public Service Week and presented with a joint proclamation from the South Carolina Senate and House.



SC FEDERATION NARFE-PAC

Ernest Williams

ejohnwj@earthlink.net



The A250 Report of NARFE-PAC contributions dated 1/5/2015 reflects 288 contributors from SC Federation Chapters donated \$8,666.00 for the reporting period: 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014.

The A250 Report of NARFE-PAC contributions dated 4/5/15 reflects 52 contributors from SC Federation Chapters donated \$2,365.00 for the reporting period: 1/1/2015 to 3/31/2015. A copy of PAC contribution reports for chapters is available on the NARE-PAC Specific page of NARFE.org website.

Headquarters NARFE-PAC goals for the 2015-2016 election cycle are:

- Raising \$1 million;
- Giving \$525,000 to congressional candidates;
- Increasing the number of new sustainer contributors by 50 percent;
- Sending local NARFE members to at least 30 in-state district fundraisers, and
- Having a PAC table at every federation convention.

Thank you all for your hard work promoting and supporting NARFE-PAC. If you have questions regarding NARFE-PAC in general, please let me know. You can reach me by email at ejohnwj@earthlink.net or by phone at 803-783-6825.

2015 Convention Picture



Kathy Hensley, South Carolina Federation President at the moment this picture was taken, has a lighter moment with South Carolina Senator Vincent Sheheen, D-District 27. The following day, Kathy became the Federation's Immediate Past President when the convention elected Gail Peapples as Kathy's successor.

Kathy and a contingent of Federation leaders attended a Senate session where Senator Setzler read a joint proclamation honoring Federation members for their exemplary federal service.

Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator
Olivia A. Williams
OEASHF3@BELLSOUTH.NET



A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to all SC Chapters for a job well done last year.

From April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015, SC Chapters raised a total of \$8,557.46 toward Alzheimer's disease Research. The year before, we raised a total of \$7,840.81. However, as of March 31, 2015, NARFE members have contributed a total for Alzheimer's Research of \$11,286,041.00 towards our National Goal of \$12 Million. The amount raised from April 1, 2015 through May 31, 2015 and sent to our National Office for South Carolina Chapters was \$1,406.60.

The Report of Chapters highest amount raised per capita dues for April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015:

- 1ST Place - Myrtle Beach Chapter #1015
- 2nd Place – Rock Hill Chapter #1180

Highest amount raised from Chapters for April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015:

- 1st Place – Myrtle Beach Chapter #1015 \$2,930.43
- 2nd Place – Hilton Head Chapter #2258 \$621.00

Highest Amount raised for 50/50 Drawing:

- 1st Place – Columbia Chapter #87 \$426.00
- 2nd Place – Beaufort Chapter #1021 i\$250.00

Report on the 50/50 Drawing and Winners.

The amount raised from the 50/50 Alzheimer's drawing held at S.C. State Convention, Marriott Hotel, in Columbia, SC on April 27, 2015 was \$1,885.00. The amount of \$952.50 to include a \$10.00 donation being sent to the National Office for Alzheimer's Disease Research and \$942.50 was divided and presented to

three winners:

- 1st Place \$471.25 Mr. Howard Weigle, Clemson Chapter #1079
- 2nd Place \$235.63 Mr. Bill Green, Greenville Chapter #121
- 3rd Place \$235.62 Ms. Penny Joye, Florence Chapter #960
- 4th Place Honorable Mention Ms. Rhoda Bullock, Beaufort Chapter #1021 (gift donated by Mr. Frank Stevens, president of N. Charleston Chapter #72)

A special thank you to Mr. Stevens for the wonderful donation of the beautiful Mystery Quilt which was used as a 4th Place gift during the 50/50 Drawing.

We encourage all chapters to find various ways to raise funds in order to give more that we might complete our new goal of \$12 Million in 2016. We are looking for a great banner year at the 2016 S.C. Federation State Convention.

Special thanks to Mrs. Nellie Bodenhamer, Mrs. Ruth Donahue and Mrs. Betty Wessinger for all their help and support during the past year and during the convention. Thanks also to all Chapters Alzheimer's Coordinators, the various Chapters and all of you for your continued support for Alzheimer's Research. It was a great year and I enjoyed working with each of you.

This disease is attacking people at a much younger age than in the past, so let's continue to give to this worthy cause with the hope for a cure soon. For Alzheimer's Aid – Call toll free 1-800-272-3900. The information help line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For Contributions: Make checks payable to NARFE-Alzheimer's Research – include chapter number on your check. If you wish to mail your check, the address is: Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., 17th Floor, Chicago, IL. 60601-7633. 100% of all contributed funds go to research and are tax deductible.

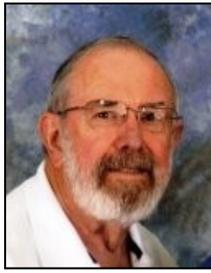
SOUTH CAROLINA NARFE FEDERATION – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Position	Name	Chapter	Email	Phone
PRESIDENT	GAIL PEAPPLES	SUMMERVILLE	gpeapples@sc.rr.com	843-906-2597
VICE PRESIDENT	MORGAN HILL	NEWBERRY	hillmorjoy@cs.com	803-364-3806/8138
SECRETARY	PATRICIA WHITELY	SUMMERVILLE	pwhitely@sc.rr.com	
TREASURER	KATHRYN HENSLEY	COLUMBIA	kathrynhensley@hotmail.com	
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	KATHRYN HENSLEY	COLUMBIA	kathrynhensley@hotmail.com	

DISTRICT FIELD OFFICERS (With Chapters in Their Districts)

District # 1 -- Howard Graham , wellweathered@reagan.com N. Charleston 72, Charleston 1013 & Summerville 1082	DISTRICT # 2 -- DENNIS KERN , dfkern@me.com Columbia 87, Aiken 934 & Orangeburg 1170
DISTRICT # 3 -- ROBBIE ANN WHITE , robbieannwhite@yahoo.com Anderson 825 & Clemson 1079	DISTRICT # 4 -- BOB MULLER , bobmuller62@msn.com Greenville 121 & Spartanburg 560
DISTRICT # 5 -- JUDITHANNE HARE , tlhare@truvista.net Newberry 772, Rock Hill 1180 & Camden 2319	DISTRICT # 6 -- LINDA KOSSOW , ljossow@aol.com Florence 960, Myrtle Beach 1015 & Pawley's Island 1958
DISTRICT # 7 -- WALTER CLARKE , dscnttrvl@aol.com Beaufort 1021 & Hilton Head 2258	

**2015 Federation Convention
Treasurer
Paul Donahue
<http://www.scnarfe.org>**



The Federation's Convention Checking Account as of December 31, 2014 had a balance of \$458.66, not \$500.00 as stipulated in previous reports, being considered "seed money."

With Convention Registrations starting in January through April 2015 we **deposited** \$8,595.00. Included was \$3,150.00 for convention program advertisers, of which there were 21.

Altogether there were 83 registered attendees, including spouses and guests.

Our **expenditures** were \$8,123.36 for printing costs, miscellaneous convention supplies, Color Guard and singer, shuttle bus service to/from the State House and the Marriott Hotel Catering Services. An itemized accounting will be forthcoming once all revenues are properly adjusted and accounted for. Presently, the checking account balance is \$1,098.99, which includes NARFE FCU *interest* "dividend" amounts over the past five months.

2015 Convention Picture

The South Carolina Federation's new President, Gail Peapples, addresses the 2015 convention at the Marriott in downtown Columbia. He is flanked on the left by the Federation's Immediate Past President, Kathy Hensley, and on the right by the Federation's Secretary, Pat Whitely.



SIGN UP FOR NARFE EMAIL SYSTEM (NES)

NES is used by NARFE Headquarters, regional vice presidents and federation presidents to distribute crucial and timely NARFE information, including Legislative Hotlines, Action Alerts, health and benefits news, press releases, newsletters and other NARFE-related news information to members.

Don't be left out! Sign up today.

All you have to do is go to www.narfe.org and Click on Member Login at the top of the homepage. Under What You Can Do Online, on the left hand side of the page, click on Add Email and Join NES. Next you can add or update your email address to your record and select the type of NES emails you would like to receive. **Click on submit and you're all set.**

**Membership
Clara Gillentine
gillentinelc803@aol.com**



In speaking with NARFE members from time-to-time, I find that not all survivors of an annuitant know or have the information required in reporting a death. Each retiree is issued a personalized booklet by OPM, upon retirement, entitled "Your Federal Retirement Benefits." This booklet describes your retirement benefits in detail. If you have lost or misplaced your booklet, call 1-888-767-6738 and request a replacement. If calling, the wait time is approximately 30 minutes. You can also request this booklet by e-mail at: retire@opm.gov You will need to have your CSA Number available.

Recruiting new members is very challenging. One of our best resources for recruiting is the prospective member list posted on line monthly (M112) or from the OAM Module which is available on demand. This list contains names of prospective members who have already shown an interest in NARFE. They just need to learn more about our association and we can provide that by a letter of invitation to a meeting. Let prospective members know that as members they can call The Federal Benefits Service Department and receive answers and guidance to complex problems from experts on staff. This alone is one very important aspect of NARFE membership.

Recent Federation Membership Numbers:

(January 1, 2015 to June 18, 2015)

New Members	17	Prospective Members	76
Reinstated Members	44	Dropped Members	129
Deceased Members — some may have died previous year	61		

2015 Convention Picture



The South Carolina Federation's all-star Alzheimer's fund raising team, from left, Nellie Bodenhamer, Olivia Williams, and Betty Wessinger. Ruth Donahue, another all-star on the Alzheimer's team, is not shown.

More 2015 Convention Pictures

South Carolina Senators Tom Young, Jr., R-District 24, and Nikki Setzler, D-District 26, are shown presenting a joint proclamation to Kathy Hensley, in her last day as President of the South Carolina NARFE Federation. Joining Kathy are, from left to right, Bob Shear, John Geiger, Harry Brown, Margaret Baptiste, former national NARFE President, Bill Nicol, Jerry Janci, Region 3 Vice President, Paul Russo, and William Toney.

[A picture of the actual resolution pages is shown on page 10 of this newsletter.](#)

The General Assembly recognized and honored the members of the South Carolina NARFE Federation for their service and outstanding contributions.



Margaret Baptiste, former national President, far left, swore in the new South Carolina NARFE Federation officers for 2015.

New officers standing next to Margaret are, from left to right, Gail Peapples, President, Morgan Hill, Vice President, Walter Clarke, District Field Officer (DFO) # 7, Judithanne Hare, DFO # 5, Bob Muller, DFO # 4, Pat Whitely, Secretary, Robbie Ann White, DFO # 3, Kathy Hensley, Immediate Past President and new Treasurer, Dennis Kern, DFO #2, and Howard Graham, DFO # 1. Linda Kossow, DFO # 6, was not present due to illness.

Some of the members attending the South Carolina NARFE Federation 2015 annual convention in Columbia are shown displaying their personal statements as to why they decided to serve their country as federal employees.

Two challenges — why did you decide to serve and how many of those pictured can you name?



SOUTH CAROLINA FEDERAL & STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

THE PRESIDENT



Barack Obama
The White House,
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500
Phone: 202-456-1111
president@whitehouse.gov

GOVERNOR



The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: 803-734-2100
<http://www.governor.sc.gov/>

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



Henry McMaster
Office of the Lieutenant Governor
State House, 1st Floor
Post Office Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29202
Phone: 803-734-2080
LtGovernor@scstatehouse.gov

SENATORS



Lindsey Graham
Washington Office
290 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-5972
lgraham.senate.gov



Tim Scott
167 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-6121
scott.senate.gov

U.S. REPRESENTATIVES



Mark Sanford
District 1
322 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4001
Phone: 202-225-3176
sanford.house.gov

U.S. REPRESENTATIVES (continued)



Joe Wilson
District 2
2229 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2452
joewilson.house.gov



Jeff Duncan
District 3
116 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone 202-225-5301
jeffduncan.house.gov



Trey Gowdy
District 4
1404 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-6030
gowdy.house.gov



Mick Mulvaney
District 5
1207 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-5501
mulvaney.house.gov



James E. Clyburn
District 6
242 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3315
clyburn.house.gov



Tom Rice
District 7
325 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-9895
rice.house.gov

2015 Convention Picture

A Concurrent Resolution Presented to the South Carolina NARFE Federation at the South Carolina State House in Columbia, SC, on April 28, 2015

S. 701.
Introduced by Senator Setzler.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE OUTSTANDING WORK AND SIGNIFICANT IMPACT OF THE NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION AND TO CELEBRATE THEIR MEMBERS DURING PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK FROM MAY 3 THROUGH 9, 2015.

WHEREAS, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to learn that the chapters of the South Carolina Federation of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) will hold their annual convention in Columbia April 27 through 29, 2015; and

WHEREAS, NARFE is a nonprofit, membership-based organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing the earned pay, retirement, and health care benefits of federal employees, retirees, and their survivors; and

WHEREAS, more than seventy-four thousand active and retired federal employees live in South Carolina, holding an economic impact of over one hundred million dollars each month, and almost three thousand of these individuals are members of the South Carolina Federation chapters of NARFE; and

WHEREAS, active chapters are located in Aiken, Anderson, Beaufort, Camden, Charleston, Clemson, Columbia, Florence, Greenville, Hilton Head, Myrtle Beach, Newberry, North Charleston, Pawleys Island, Rock Hill, Spartanburg, and Summerville; and

WHEREAS, Public Service Recognition Week will be observed May 3 through 9, 2015, to honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county, and local government employees who accomplish amazing tasks across the country with little fanfare, such as researching cures for the most challenging diseases, taking criminals off our streets and keeping them behind bars, assisting our

military at home and abroad, caring for veterans, and helping us prepare for and recover from severe weather, to name just a few career areas of these dedicated public servants; and

WHEREAS, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly appreciate the substantial contributions of public servants in our State and their meaningful participation in our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

THAT the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor the outstanding work and significant impact of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association and celebrate their members during Public Service Recognition Week from May 3 through 9, 2015.

Dickie G. Setzler
In the Senate
Columbia, South Carolina
April 23, 2015

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed in the Senate and concurred in by the House.

Jeffrey S. Gossett
Jeffrey S. Gossett
Clerk of the Senate



Photographs of the actual pages of the signed resolution.