

***Serving Current and Retired  
Federal Employees***

*December 2014 Volume 51-Issue 3*

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



This has been a whirlwind year in South Carolina NARFE. Much of our attention in the first half of the year dealt with proposed changes from the National Executive Board – some good recommendations from a committee but a bit weak on implementation timing and background supporting the recommendations. The major change to come out of the report and voted on by delegates to the National Convention was the elimination of the National Vice President position and combining the Secretary position with the Treasurer position. Dick Thissen, former national Treasurer was elected President and Jon Dowie from the St. Augustine, FL chapter was elected Secretary/Treasurer. Don Stewart, our Region III Vice President retired and Jerry Janci, Federation President in Mississippi, was elected to replace him on the National Executive Board. A reorganization has occurred at the national headquarters. If you are a chapter official who deals with the national office, please know that a number of individuals have been moved to different positions and you may encounter some difficulty finding the person you wish to speak with and some delay in getting answers. I urge you to consider contacting our own Federation officers and committee chairs who may be able to assist you, especially during this transition time.

South Carolina had a 100% representation either by the chapter proxies or twenty-five chapter delegates who attended the 2014 National NARFE Convention.

The 2014 South Carolina state convention, co-sponsored by the Summerville, North Charleston, and Charleston chapters, was held in North Charleston in May. Vice President Morgan Hill and Summerville chapter president, Pat Whitely, served as co-chairs. Attendance was up from the previous year, but I believe we can do better. We observed the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Federation and the national Vice President, Paul Carew, presented a certificate recognizing this milestone. The delegates were welcomed by The Honorable Keith Summey, Mayor of North Charleston. Keynote speakers were Tom Johnson, Executive Director of Magnolia Gardens, a horticulturist who is an international expert on camellias and Dr. Jacobo Mintzer, Executive Director, Clinical Biotechnology Research Institute at the Charleston Roper St. Francis Healthcare Hospital who is doing grant funded research on Alzheimer's disease causes. Other speakers were Marti Phillips from the SC Department of Consumer Affairs, National NARFE Vice President Carew, Region III Vice President Don Stewart, and representatives of several of our FEHB plans. *(continue reading this article on page 5)*

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR SO YOU  
DON'T MISS THE 51st  
SCNARFE CONVENTION

## WHERE

At the  
Downtown  
Marriott Hotel  
at Hampton &  
Main in . . .



**COLUMBIA SC**  
**FAMOUSLY HOT**

## WHEN

**Monday, April 27  
to noon  
Wednesday, April 29,  
2015**

**See Registration  
Form on Page 8**

## Federation Web Coordinator

**Paul Donahue**

<http://www.scnarfe.org>



The past year has been extremely busy in our ongoing attempts at revising and totally re-formatting the South Carolina Federation of NARFE Chapters Website, with the addition of those twenty one chapters residing therein. In website parlance, SCNARFE is known as the **main domain** name and all of its chapters are referred to as **sub-domains**.

Much discussion and research has gone into its redesign; as the general feeling was that the website, in operation for nearly ten years was too staid, old-fashioned, not keeping up with the current trends evolved around the present day “**social media**” frenzy, such as **Facebook** and **Twitter**. Besides, it was not interactive enough. Even though the old website had been upgraded periodically during its existence, it still did not emit the type of present day image being witnessed throughout the “internet industry.” Moreover, with the introduction of NARFE’s “E-Chapter” members, it was deemed important that we consider those members, as well, in the dissemination of NARFE information.

To begin with, the SCNARFE.ORG website is not competing with daily news telecasting, so we did not feel the need for streaming videos, or for any “drop-down, or pop-up” subliminal messages relevant to the NARFE mission. We did however succumb to adding *Facebook* and *Twitter* links direct to our National Headquarters in order for those e-chapter members to be able to surf the web in their search for NARFE information. It may be interesting to note here that NARFE boasts an E-Chapter membership contingent of over 30,000 and South Carolina’s Federation already has ten-percent (10%) of those members resident in our state. So our requirement to be able to communicate with them was also considered crucial. We have even gone the extra mile in posting a South Carolina Federation E-Chapter WebPage on our National Website, in order to be compliant with all those other Federations competing for membership. The websites have been reduced by half but convey the same message.

Let me state that SCNARFE’s website will be in operation ten (10) years this coming July 4<sup>th</sup>. We have been resident on the very same host server during that period. Unlike reports in recent times; we have had a fairly decent track record of no appreciable site crashes, nor the need for outside information technology intervention to re-establish credibility. Essentially, it has been a one-man operation all of this time, at no-cost to the Federation excepting for the annual host server fee of approximately \$60.00 and that is for the entire twenty-two websites currently in operation. I would venture a guess that it is definitely an unheard of bargain these days, when we were recently quoted rates of \$3,000-\$5,000/website, just for design purposes! NARFE charges many times that amount to host one chapter’s website.

All of our website design software is now resident on the host server. In years past we were dependent upon such website design programs as Microsoft Publisher. This became cumbersome whenever we attempted to recruit others to

(continued from previous column)

consider maintaining their own chapter’s website. Now a site simple change can be effected in 60 seconds, or less! We also have the advantage of utilizing less technology sophisticated members being able to service their own websites, from simply replacing an officer, or committee chair, to changing out their chapter newsletter, or simply introducing a program speaker. Anyone interested in discussing this latest feature, please contact me at: [paddona@scnarfe.org](mailto:paddona@scnarfe.org).

## Federation Legislative Chair — John Geiger [jjgeiger@aol.com](mailto:jjgeiger@aol.com)



**Mid-Term Election Results:** Nationally: Republicans achieved a majority in the Senate, 46 Democrats & 53 Republicans and Louisiana not decided (runoff in Dec). Republicans maintained control in the House (244 seats; most in 60 years).

South Carolina Legislative Delegation remains the same (refer to last month’s NARFE Magazine on How They Voted to see our challenge) .

**Lame duck Congress:** 113<sup>th</sup> Congress convenes November 12, 2014, and is expected to adjourn the week of December 15; not much time to do a lot.

**Must Do:** Pass a Spending Bill — either a Continuing Resolution (current CR expires December 11) or an Omnibus Spending Bill to wrap-up all the spending bills to start the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress with a clean slate in January 2015. [Limited time favors a CR and let the new Congress settle the spending bills.]

**National Defense Authorization Act:** House already passed, Senate has not (NARFE interest in re-employed annuitants)

**Postal Reform (S.1486):** NARFE opposes bill for three big reasons [Note: Updated NARFE GEMS letter or Hilton Head Chapter Form letter].

[Watch for new Committee Chairs in the House (self-imposed term limits) and in the Senate because of the election results for those Committees that deal with Federal Employee issues. (House Oversight and Government Reform and Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Operations)]

**Grass Roots Advocacy:** Prepare for battles — “114<sup>th</sup> will be a difficult Congress for Federal Employees **and** Federal Retirees”

- Plan, outline goals, meetings with Representatives and Senators as planned activities (utilize Protect America’s Heartbeat Toolkit). NARFE goal — “Every member of Congressional delegation contacted in 2015” (reach out to newly elected/re-elected members)
- State Legislative Activities that affect the Federal Family—Subscribe to your State Senator’s or House Representative’s newsletter.

**District Field Officer #1**  
**Gail Peapples**  
*gpeapples@sc.rr.com*

Elected DFO at SC Federation of NARFE Convention following Barbara Bryan of Summerville Chapter 1082

who had served well and played a role in mentoring for the past year of 2013-2014.

Started the position by believing that the District 1 chapters should have some form of social gathering for the purpose of getting to know each other. The convention provided a platform of people to work with and so it became a commitment to complete this objective. I started by attending the **North Charleston** Meeting the next Friday and asked their opinion on the subject. They seemed acceptable to the idea and some volunteers gave me names and contacts. The same happened at the **Summerville** and **Charleston** Chapters over the month.

As the Summerville and Charleston chapters do not have full membership meetings during the summer, June thru August, I inquired of the North Charleston chapter if they would host all of the volunteers to meet with them during the summer. Ideas were formed and discussed over a two month period of July and August. The three groups formed included; location and transportation (Pat Whitely, with Marian Henry), meals and type of methods to be provided (Dianna Weissert, and Mary Anderson), and lastly membership notification of dates and details (Membership Chairs and/or officers Howard Graham, Summerville, Ned Adams, Charleston, Frank Stevens, North Charleston President, and Charleston President Mimi Scharf).

It was well planned by the chapters and they picked a day two months in advance for notification. Pat Whitely made an announcement flyer complete with sand bucket and shovel to be distributed by chapters. The picnic at the North Charleston River Front Park Pavilion was held on September 17, 2014. Much rain had fallen over the past month in the area and chances had to be taken. It turned out to be a beautiful day with sunshine and a light breeze to cool the air.

Guessing there would be fifty people attending, several of us tried counting while people mingled and met each other. **There were more than 60 people in attendance.** The catered food came from "Sticky Fingers. The menu was BBQ pulled pork and chicken with sides and drinks. It was great food and a wonderful gathering that hopefully we can have several times a year. **Make it happen District One Chapters!**

**Federation FEEA Coordinator**  
**Margaret Baptiste**  
*margaretbaptiste@comcast.net*

Federation members are reminded that they may make tax-deductible

contributions to the two NARFE FEEA programs: Scholarships for children/grandchildren of federal workers and retirees and the Federal Disaster Assistance Program. Make checks payable to FEEA – Scholarship Program or FEEA – Disaster Assistance Program and pass to the chapter FEEA Coordinator or Treasurer.

**SC Federation of Chapters' Newsletter Editor**  
Bob Shear  
email: robertshear.narfe87@hotmail.com  
or by telephone: 803-386-2027

**District Field Officer #2**  
**Ernest Williams**  
*ejohnwjr@earthlink.net*

**Columbia Chapter 87, Robert Shear, President** Elected and appointed positions for Chapter 87 were filled

for 2014 plus the chapter has a full slate of members who have volunteered to fill elected positions for 2015. Induction of new officers will be held at the December 2014 meeting. The chapter has also filled all appointed positions for 2015. Chapter membership continues to decline. Current membership stands at 378 voting and non-voting members. Last year, the chapter averaged over 400 voting and nonvoting members. Chapter meetings averaged about 35 members. This is down from our previous average attendance last year of 50 members per meeting. The chapter publishes a quarterly newsletter. More than 400 newsletters are mailed each quarter. The chapter also e-mails about 120 newsletters quarterly. Membership committee members staffed a recruiting table at Fort Jackson's Retiree Appreciation Day in May 2014. The chapter's legislative chair arranged for a delegation to meet with U. S. Representatives Wilson and Clyburn in August and September 2014. The August meeting was with Mr. Wilson and the September meeting was with one of Mr. Clyburn's office staff. Six Chapter 87 members serve as state federation officers. One of Chapter 87's members serves as federation president. Seven chapter members attended NARFE's state convention in North Charleston, SC, in May and four members attended NARFE's national convention in Orlando, FL, in August. Chapter 87 is responsible for conducting the 2015 state convention in Columbia. Convention dates are April 27-29, 2014. The Downtown Columbia Marriott has been selected as the convention hotel. See registration form on page 8.

**Aiken Chapter 934, Robert Johnson, President** This chapter supports NARFE's initiatives and programs. Monthly meetings were held in May, June, September, and October 2014 with an average attendance of 13. This chapter does not hold meetings in June, July, or August. This chapter has guest speakers at each of the meetings to speak on a topic of community interest. The Legislative Chair provides the latest information affecting chapter members and reports on visits made to legislative delegations, both state and federal. The membership is notified of chapter meetings each month via e-mail and newspaper announcements. In September, the Chapter President and the Legislative Chair participated in a NARFE related visit to Congressman Joe Wilson (R-SC). Subsequently, the Chapter President met with Congressman Wilson on three separate occasions. The Legislative Chair provides the latest information affecting chapter members and reports on visits made to legislative delegations, both state and federal.

**Orangeburg Chapter 1170, Luther Sumpter, President** This chapter continues to struggle for survival. The president does not have a computer and the secretary is the only one to contact via email. As of December 2013, the membership of this chapter was approximately 35 members.

**District Field Officer #3**

**Robbie Ann White**

[robbieannwhite@yahoo.com](mailto:robbieannwhite@yahoo.com)

**Clemson Chapter 1079:**

For 2014 due to holidays, January and July meetings were canceled.

The standing meeting location of Jimmy's closed. They were closed when we arrived in October and the meeting was quickly moved to Diennans down the street. The November meeting was held at The Lighthouse. The Lighthouse was approved for January, February and March of 2015. By March the membership will vote to either continue at the Lighthouse or move to another location. John Hawbacker invited the chapter to have Christmas at his home on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Chapter accepted the invitation. Attendees will bring a side dish. Officers for 2015 were elected.

October was the first month for Clemson chapter having a booth for public introduction to the NARFE Organization. Location was at Newcomer's Club where I met 4 retirees. One is a member moving to the area and three were unaware of NARFE. Material used from HQ plus added material I obtained at the National NAPUS Postmaster Convention's NARFE booth. Booth material is set with the exception of updating as needed.

The speaker for the November meeting happened to be a NARFE member who was not aware of local chapters and now will be attending Clemson's future meetings. He is also making arrangements for a possible booth at an annual state meeting of government employees which may be at Hilton Head. He will put me in contact with the state president, a federal retiree, who is in Clemson, SC. I look forward to meeting him in the near future and will keep you informed.

**Electric City Chapter 825:** As per their schedule, the Anderson Chapter discontinued meetings for the three summer months. The chapter increased by two and has had good attendance for 2014. The chapter has a good program at each meeting. They are interested in a booth at several community events and should be making arrangements. I am looking forward to working with members for those events. Their elections will be December.

**Emerald City Chapter 920:** I continue to email those of the Greenwood chapter who have email addresses. I am still waiting for Federation approval to send out post cards to those on the membership roster attempting to have a meeting in Greenwood. Hopefully a few of the members will attend. Some have responded to the membership emails I continue to send. I try to keep them updated on political and Federation information.

**SC FEDERATION NARFE-PAC**

**Ernest Williams**

[ejohnwjr@earthlink.net](mailto:ejohnwjr@earthlink.net)

NARFE-PAC contributions for the last nine months

show 272 SC Federation contributors donated \$8,211.00. The PAC Contribution Report, by chapter, was distributed to chapter representatives at the SC Federation meeting in November. SC Congressman Jim Clyburn, District 6, received \$3,000.00 in a NARFE-PAC contribution during the recent election.

**Thank you for your support of NARFE-PAC.**

**District Field Officer #4**

**Jeanette M. Keepers**

[jnettie67@hotmail.com](mailto:jnettie67@hotmail.com)

District 4 is comprised of two chapters, **Greenville 121** (with 128 voting and non-voting members), and **Spartanburg 560**,

with 70 voting and non-voting members.

First, the bad news: In spite of having interesting speakers and being centrally-located in a downtown restaurant with an eclectic menu, the Greenville chapter is facing a serious crisis. No one is willing to take on the position of President or Vice President for 2015. The current president, Mitch Upton, has served for three years and cannot continue, because of his wife's health.

I have asked a couple of key members from their chapter to meet with the Spartanburg chapter on November 11th, when Kathy Hensley will be our guest speaker. We're hoping to brainstorm the issue and come up with viable options, including changing their meeting date, location, or even combining the two chapters. We're open to any other suggestions as to what might work to save the Greenville chapter.

Now, for the good news: Even though the Spartanburg chapter continues to lose members through attrition (mostly death), the sitting officers have agreed to serve another term. I will induct them at our December meeting

Hopefully, through hard work and diligence, we will keep both chapters in District 4 healthy and successful in 2015.

**District Field Office # 5**

**Judithanne P. Hare**

[TLHARE@truvista.net](mailto:TLHARE@truvista.net)

**Rock Hill/Tri County Chapter 1180** has a full complement of officers now. The chapter

continues to seek out new members, although it has not been easy. The chapter averages 13-15 members at most of the meetings. We are very happy to have Dick and Mary Sarver back with us. Dick has gone through a great deal this year with his health. But, like the trooper he is, he has worked his way back to good health. The Rock Hill members look forward to an exciting 2015 and hope to welcome some new members in the year to come.

**Newberry Chapter 772** had three members attending the Federation meeting in Charleston in May, and two members attended the National Convention in August. The chapter has been working hard to recruit new members. They are also trying to fill the positions of President and Vice President. These positions may be filled by the beginning of the New Year. Health problems have been an issue in getting people to the meetings. Newberry is in an area where government agencies are in the minority, making recruitment a challenge.

**Camden Chapter 2319** continues to have problems filling officer positions. They are working on this but have no resolution yet. Some members have held the same offices for several years.

**Sumter Chapter 1786** has had no activity this past year.

**FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH**

**INSURANCE OPEN SEASON**

November 10th to December 8th, 2014

*(continued from page 1)*

We had three Executive Board meetings in 2014 – February, May and November. Due to an unusual snow storm in the Southeast, our Region III Vice President, Don Stewart, was unable to attend the February meeting, but was present for the May board meeting. Newly elected Region III Vice President, Jerry Janci, attended the November board meeting.

I have attended chapter meetings all over the state during 2014 and will visit two more chapters in addition to my own, before the end of the year. My primary message to each chapter and its members is for each member to recruit at least one new member – and if you do it before December 31<sup>st</sup>, you get a \$10 check! How about considering this as a Christmas gift for someone who has everything?

All members of the SC Congressional delegation were re-elected. Only one has a 100% voting record that supports NARFE issues and concerns. Two others have around a 25% voting record for NARFE. I urge you to continue to contact the members and it's as easy as going online to [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org) and sign in as a member. In the Legislative Action section of the web site, you can send a letter to them just by adding your name and address. The more times we as individuals contact them, the more they will realize our continuing interest in what they do. The National NARFE Legislative Conference will be held in March and our NARFE contingent will be visiting each of their offices.

We have some chapters that are struggling to remain viable. If you are in any of these chapters, please be aware that I will be contacting your officers and you to attempt to reorganize because it is a lot more work to disestablish chapters. Chapters are the life blood of our member based organization. It is we who make the contacts with Congress to advocate for the pay and benefits for federal workers and retirees. In addition, we work to raise funds for Alzheimer's research, scholarships for children/grandchildren of federal workers and retirees, provide donations for our NARFE PAC so that we might show a financial interest in those members of Congress who support us, and best of all, provide an interaction with others who spend or have spent their careers in public service. Our service officers are available to help with various insurance and annuity questions, and end of life issues.

Make your NARFE membership count by serving on a chapter committee or as a chapter officer! The NARFE web site has a wealth of information to help you perform in a position. We need to keep our organization healthy and relevant. If you can't serve in a position, at least attend your chapter meetings and send those letters to Congress. Let me hear from you if you have questions or need assistance.

Best wishes to you and your families as you observe special celebrations during this season!

### **District Field Officer #6**

**Linda Kossow-Pagani**  
[ljkossow@aol.com](mailto:ljkossow@aol.com)

**Florence Chapter 960** has 125 members. I have not visited this chapter, but communications with officers indicates that they

are in good shape. Kathy Hensley visited the chapter earlier this year.

**Myrtle Beach Chapter 1015** has 232 members. Membership continues to decline although there have been some new members join. Meetings average 30 participants. All officer positions are filled except for someone to serve as Public Relations and Publicity. In October, the chapter staffed a booth at the Festiva Italia calling attention to the chapter's existence in Myrtle Beach. In January, the chapter will host a dinner dance for Alzheimer's at the Grand Stand Senior Center and plans to participate in the North Myrtle Beach St. Patrick's Day Parade. Federation president, Kathy Hensley, plans to attend the December meeting of the chapter.

**Pawley's Island Chapter 1958** has 73 members with monthly attendance usually 15-25 members. The chapter plans to sponsor a family at Christmas, participate in many neighborhood events and recently held a meet and greet for local legislators. All officer positions are filled; however, the President may have to resign soon and the Treasurer must also resign. No one has come forward yet to fill these positions. The Chapter President has expressed concern for

### **District Field Officer #7**

**Walter Clark**  
[dscntrvl@aol.com](mailto:dscntrvl@aol.com)

No written report from District Field Officer, but **Hilton Head 2258** chapter reports that new officers have been elected and were installed at the December

2<sup>nd</sup> meeting by federation president Kathy Hensley. The chapter is active in contacting legislators. The **Beaufort 1021** chapter is in good shape. The DFO is working with the **Walterboro 1185** chapter which does not have regular meetings.

### **Federation Service Officer**

**Sally Deprecker**  
[smdepreker@sc.rr.com](mailto:smdepreker@sc.rr.com)

Most service-related issues are settled at the chapter level. However, I received an email from Dave Snell, Director of

NARFE's Federal Benefits Services Department announcing that there are two benefit-related training modules available on the web. These training modules explain two relatively "rare" issues that service officers could be called upon for explanation and/or guidance.

The first is a **representative payee**, the need for whom might arise when an employee/annuitant becomes mentally or physically unable to handle his/her own money. The second relates to benefits for **surviving children** of a deceased employee/annuitant. Both modules can be accessed by:

Log into [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org), click on the Orange button on the left that says Officer Resources, click on In-House Presentations on the left side of the page (they are listed as top two under Video Presentations). The sound quality is not the greatest, but NARFE is working on improving that for future training modules.

Service officers can log into [www.opm.gov/retirement-services](http://www.opm.gov/retirement-services) to acquaint themselves with these areas of concern. The **representative payee form (RI 20-7) (PDF file)** explains what is involved in being a representative payee. There is also extensive information available on the OPM website that explains the benefits payable to children of deceased CSRS/FERS employees/annuitants.

Other training has been made available online and federation chapters have been made aware of how to access.

**Federation Alzheimer's  
Coordinator  
Olivia A. Williams  
oeashf3@bellsouth.net**

Let me give a huge thanks to all the SC Chapters for a job well done last year. From April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014, SC

Chapters raised a total of \$7,840.81 toward solving this Alzheimer's disease. The year before, we raised a total of \$4,406.02. The amount raised from April 1, 2014 through October 31, 2014 and sent to our National Office for South Carolina Chapters is \$2,405.40. As of August 31, 2014, NARFE members have contributed a total for Alzheimer's Research of \$10,986,136.00 towards our National Goal of \$11 Million.

The Report of Chapters Per Capita Dues for April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014:

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Place — Myrtle Beach Chapter #1015
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place — Newberry Chapter #772

Highest amount monies raised from Chapters for April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place — Myrtle Beach Chapter #1015 in the amount of \$3,082.11
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place — Columbia Chapter #87 in the amount of \$1,048.00

Report on the 50/50 Drawing and individual winners: The amount raised for the 50/50 Alzheimer's drawing held at S.C. State Convention May 13, 2014 was \$1,553.00 with \$776.50 being sent to the National Office for Alzheimer's Disease Research and \$776.50 was presented to three winners from the following chapters:

- 1st Place Winner \$388.25 Aiken Chapter #934
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner \$194.13 Newberry Chapter #772
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner \$194.12 Aiken Chapter #934

4<sup>th</sup> Place Winner Honorable Mention (gift donated by S.C. Federation President, Kathy Hensley), Beaufort Chapter #1021.

Beaufort Chapter #1021 raised the highest funds of \$250.00 and Columbia Chapter #87 was 2<sup>nd</sup> highest funds raised of \$191.00 for 50/50 Drawing.

Based on the amount we have sent to the National Alzheimer's Office from April 1, 2014 through October 31, 2014, we are encouraging all chapters to try and give more in order to finish our goal of \$11 Million in 2014 and to start making plans to reach our new goal of \$12 Million in 2016.

Special thanks to Mrs. Nellie Bodenhamer and Mrs. Betty Wessinger for all their help and support during the past year and during the convention. Again, special thanks to all the Chapters Alzheimer's Coordinators, the various Chapters and all of you for your continued support for Alzheimer's Research.

This disease is attacking people at a much younger age than in the past, so let us continue to give to this worthy cause with the hope they will find a cure for Alzheimer's Disease 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 — and include your chapter number on your check. If you cannot attend a chapter meeting to make a donation, you can mail your check to: Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., 17<sup>th</sup> 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
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	KATHRYN HENSLEY	COLUMBIA	kathrynhensley@hotmail.com	803-957-7750
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	MORGAN HILL	NEWBERRY	hillmorjoy@cs.com	803-364-3806/8138
<b>SECRETARY</b>	PATRICIA WHITELY	SUMMERVILLE	pwhitely@sc.rr.com	
<b>TREASURER</b>	JOE McCARTY	GREENVILLE	joemccarty@charter.net	
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>	BILL NICOL	HILTON HEAD	pennst63@aol.com	
<b>District # 1 -- Gail Peapples</b> , gpeapples@sc.rr.com N. Charleston 72, Charleston 1013, Summerville 1082		<b>DISTRICT # 2 -- ERNEST WILLIAMS</b> , ejohnwjr@earthlink.net Columbia 87, Aiken 934, Orangeburg 1170		
<b>DISTRICT # 3 -- ROBBIE ANN WHITE</b> , robbieannwhite@yahoo.com Anderson 825, Greenwood 920, Clemson 1079		<b>DISTRICT # 4 -- JEANETTE KEEPERS</b> , jnettie67@hotmail.com Greenville 121, Spartanburg 560		
<b>DISTRICT # 5 -- JUDITHANNE HARE</b> , tlhare@truvista.net Newberry 772, Rock Hill 1180, Sumter 1786, Camden 2319		<b>DISTRICT # 6 -- LINDA KOSSOW-PAGANI</b> , ljrossow@aol.com Florence 960, Myrtle Beach 1015, Pawley's Island 1958		
<b>DISTRICT # 7 -- WALTER CLARK</b> , dscnttrvl@aol.com Beaufort 1021, Walterboro 1185, Hilton Head 2258		<b>DISTRICT # 7 -- Walter Clark</b> , dscnttrvl@aol.com Beaufort 1021, Walterboro 1185, Hilton Head 2258		





# REGISTRATION FORM

## 51ST ANNUAL SC NARFE FEDERATION CONVENTION APRIL 27-29, 2015

**Make hotel room reservations for SC NARFE Convention direct with:**

**Marriott Columbia Downtown — 1200 Hampton Street — Columbia, SC 29201**

**Reservations By Phone: Toll Free at 1-800-593-6465 or Reservations On-line at**

**[www.marriott.com/caemh](http://www.marriott.com/caemh) (Enter Check-in/Check-out dates, click Special Rates & Awards. Click on Group Code & enter "sscscsca." Click Find. Click Select under \$94.00 & enter personal/credit card data.)**

The on-line site indicates there is a parking charge; that is incorrect & parking is free for conference attendees.  
**Hotel reservations are due no later than April 2, 2015.**

If making a reservation by phone, tell the hotel operator you are registering for the SC NARFE Convention. Some additional days before or after may be reserved at the convention rate. Late reservations are subject to availability & prevailing rate. The daily rate is \$94.00 plus taxes of \$11.28 (12%) & Destination Marketing Fee of \$1.88 (2%) for a **total cost of \$107.16.**

**Convention Registration fee is \$70.00 per person (includes President's Reception with hors d'oeuvres Monday evening and Banquet Dinner Tuesday evening). Please submit payment in full by March 27, 2015. Late registration fee postmarked after March 27th is \$80.00.**

**MEALS:** *Monday evening* — President's reception (with hors d'oeuvres) at the Marriott. *Tuesday & Wednesday morning* — breakfast buffet coupon available for registered guests at \$8.00 each & payable upon check-in. *Tuesday noon* — lunch on your own; the Marriott serves lunch plus there are many nice restaurants a short walk from the hotel. *Tuesday evening* — banquet at the Marriott includes a garden salad, choice of grilled Atlantic Salmon, London Broil, grilled chicken breast, plus starch & vegetable sides and a dessert. There is also a vegetarian selection available; a pasta plate with Penne Pasta sautéed with mixed vegetables.

**Note:** Use a separate Convention Registration form for each registrant. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE.

NARFE Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Name/Location \_\_\_\_\_

Current **Chapter Officer** Position/Positions \_\_\_\_\_

**(ONLY CHECK ONE)** Delegate \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Delegate \_\_\_\_\_ Member \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

**First Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Last Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Badge Name, if different from First Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address: Street or PO Box #** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone ( )** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone ( )** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

Current **Federation Officer** Position/Positions \_\_\_\_\_

Past Federation President \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration cancellations between March 28 and April 17, 2015 will be charged a \$15 handling fee and any cancellation between April 18 and April 27 will be charged a \$35 fee. Any cancellation fee will be waived if it is due to hospitalization or other serious problem depending on what meal function guarantees have been made. Payment shall be made by check payable to SC FED Convention and mailed with this registration form to:**

**SC NARFE Federation Convention, PO Box 1518, Lexington, SC 29071**

**Please check your dinner preference for the banquet: Grilled Atlantic Salmon \_\_\_\_\_, London Broil \_\_\_\_\_, Grilled Chicken Breast \_\_\_\_\_, or Vegetarian Pasta Plate \_\_\_\_\_**

**Check cooking preference if you selected Salmon or London Broil:**

**Rare \_\_\_\_\_, Medium Rare \_\_\_\_\_, Medium \_\_\_\_\_, Medium Well \_\_\_\_\_, or Well Done \_\_\_\_\_**

*For Treasurer Use:*

Item No \_\_\_\_\_ Check No \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Registrations \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Date \_\_\_\_\_ Banquet Selection Checked \_\_\_\_\_

# FEDERAL & STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

## PRESIDENT



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

## U.S. REPRESENTATIVES (*continued*)



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

## GOVERNOR



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



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

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



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



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

## SENATORS



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



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



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



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

## U.S. REPRESENTATIVES



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



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

# **LAST CALL**

## **Open Season for FEHBP Insurance is now through December 8th**

- If you are currently enrolled in a FEHBP plan and have checked the rate and coverage and want to continue with the same plan, you do not need to take any action! You will automatically be reinstated to continue with the same plan with the new rates and coverage to become effective on January 1, 2015.
- If you want to change coverage to another plan or drop your coverage with FEHBP, you may do this on-line (<http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/open-season>) or by calling OPM (1-888-767-6738).
- **A word of caution to retirees:** To remain eligible for coverage through FEHBP, you must continue in the program. Once you cancel, you are no longer eligible for enrollment. With life-changing events, as a FEHBP continuous member, you may make adjustments to your plan coverage in the event of such events as marriage, death, or adoption.
- **A word of caution to current federal employees:** You must be enrolled in an FEHBP program with coverage for 5 continuous years just prior to your retirement to be eligible for FEHBP insurance into retirement.

## **Medicare Enrollment is Open Now to December 7**

## **Separate Website for this year's Federal Benefits Open Season**

OPM has a separate website for this year's Federal Benefits Open Season that contains information on the various benefits that employees and retirees can enroll in or change enrollment in. It also contains information about Open Season web casts that will be available for viewing on line. Go to: <http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/open-season>.

## **Health Information for Active Employees**

- Average increase in premiums is 3.8% in the FEHBP program plans. Although the government pays about 70 percent of total premium costs for employees and retirees under the FEHBP program, the U.S. Postal Service pays more for its active employees. Plan brochures, enrollment procedures and other information can be found at [www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance](http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance).
- Under the FEHBP and FEDVIP programs, enrollment continues unchanged from year to year if an enrollee takes no action. However, one special consideration in the health insurance program is that several carriers that cover about 25,000 enrollees and family members total will be dropping out or restricting their coverage areas, forcing enrollees to choose a new plan.
- In the flexible spending account program, a new enrollment is required each year. In that program, employees may set aside on a pretax basis up to \$5,000 for certain dependent-care expenses and up to \$2,550 for certain health-care expenses not covered by insurance. There are two significant changes in that program for the 2015 plan year. The minimum set aside in each account is dropping from \$250 to \$100. Also, a "grace period" policy will apply only to dependent-care accounts; under that policy, costs can be charged to a plan year if they are incurred up to 10 weeks into the following year. For health-care accounts, a carryover of up to \$500 from one year to the next will be allowed instead.