

March 2010

**MESSAGE FROM THE FEDERATION PRESIDENT**

(From John Geiger - Federation President)

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



**ACTIVITIES TO BE DONE THIS MONTH FOR THE STATE CONVENTION**

(John Geiger - SC Federation President)

- Assignment of Proxy (if no Chapter representation) in writing to the Federation Secretary by March 22
- Notification of Delegates (Proxy) to Federation Secretary by April 1. A Form is not necessary, a letter signed by the Secretary and President indicating who are the delegates elected from your Chapter will suffice.
- Names of those members who have passed away in the previous 12 months: Submit to Convention Chair, no later than April 1. This should be a listing of all those members in your Chapters who have passed away in the period April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010. You can provide a listing as of now and simply update it there are any additions up to April 1.

**MESSAGE FROM THE FEDERATION 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

(Jeanette Keepers, Spartanburg)

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



Jeanette M. Keepers, 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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

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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](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.



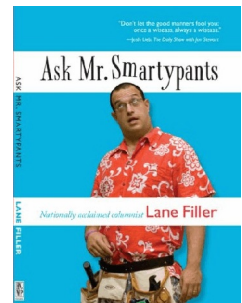
- \* The Spartanburg Marriott hotel at Renaissance Park
- \* 299 North Church Street
- \* Spartanburg, South Carolina 29306 USA
- \* Phone: 1-864-596-1211
- \* Fax: 1-864-596-1219
- \* Toll-free: 1-800-327-6465

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. Smartyants' 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.

### **CONVENTION PROGRAM ADS (This will be updated before going to press with the latest as from Friday's Meeting)**

(John Rungo - Convention Program Advertising Chair)

The Convention Committee would like to express their thanks to the six South Carolina NARFE Chapters that have, through February 28<sup>th</sup>, submitted their ads for the 46th Annual Federation Convention Program.

They are Greenville - Chapter 121; Spartanburg - Chapter 560; Columbia - Chapter 87; Florence - Chapter 960; Aiken - Chapter 934 and Hilton Head - Chapter 2258. Greenville and Spartanburg Chapters have chosen this method to honor their members who passed away in the past year.

All Chapters have been asked to support their convention by taking out an ad in the Convention Program. The deadline for submission is April 3rd, 2010. The cost of an ad for NARFE Chapters or members is \$25 for a quarter page or business card; \$75 for a half page ad and \$150 for a full page ad.

The ads can be submitted as a JPG or text file by e-mail, it can be submitted by sending a CD containing the ad copy; or it can be submitted by an actual copy of the ad on paper which can be photographed or scanned to reproduce it in the Program. A copy of the Ad Submission form can be obtained by clicking your mouse on this hyperlink [www.scnarfe.org/NARFE Ad Form.pdf](http://www.scnarfe.org/NARFE_Ad_Form.pdf) The form can be filled out with the information and sent to John Rungo, Program Advertising Chair at the address on the form.

## **Public Service Recognition Week May 3-9, 2010**

(From NARFE Headquarters)

NARFE is a proud supporter of Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW). Celebrated since 1985, PSRW is a nationwide public education campaign honoring the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees and ensure that our government is the best in the world. Each year, the President and Congress designate the first full week of May as PSRW, and activities are held nationwide and around the world in celebration of public employees who put service above self.

From the steps of the Capitol to the smallest towns, public servants use the week to educate citizens about the work that they do and why they have chosen public service careers. Throughout the week, communities use this occasion to host various events, from open houses to other ceremonies recognizing and thanking their local public employees.

NARFE will be encouraging all federations and chapters to get involved in their areas and to call on their local elected officials to sign special proclamations honoring the services of all public employees. NARFE will also participate in the capstone celebration held on the National Mall, along with more than 100 government offices and agencies and nonprofit organizations, with a special NARFE exhibit.

(And from John Geiger - SC Federation President)

This Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) is a great opportunity to showcase the hard work done everyday by our Active Federal Employees. Specifically, those Chapters that are close to large Federal installations might consider approaching the Mayors of the nearby cities of Aiken (Savannah River Site), Columbia (Fort Jackson), Sumter (Shaw Air Force Base), Charleston (Charleston AFB et al), and Beaufort (Parris Island)--encouraging them to make a proclamation which we could provide. Solicit ideas from your Chapters during your next meeting to make this special week one to remember. Thanks and let me know what we can do.

## **FROM THE FEDERATION SERVICE OFFICER**

(Larry Shaff - Federation Service Officer)

### **Planning for 2010 Federal Income Tax**

Upon completion of your 2009 federal income tax return you may want to estimate your 2010 tax as the brackets have changed from six to eight that could result a significant variation in your tax. These new tax rate schedules are shown below.

Single-if your taxable income is:

Over	But not Over	The tax is:	Of the amount over _____
\$6,050	\$10,425	10%	\$6,050
\$10,425	\$36,050	\$437.50 + 15%	\$10,425
\$36,050	\$67,700	\$4,281.25 + 25%	\$36,050
\$67,700	\$84,450	\$12,193.75 + 27%	\$67,700
\$84,450	\$87,700	\$16,716.25 + 30%	\$84,450
\$87,700	\$173,900	\$17,691.25 + 28%	\$87,700
\$173,900	\$375,700	\$41,827.25 + 33%	\$173,900
\$375,700	---	\$108,421.25 + 35%	\$375,700

Married filing jointly-if your taxable income is:

Over	But not Over	The tax is:	Of the amount over_____
\$13,750	\$24,500	10%	\$13,750
\$24,500	\$75,750	\$1,075.00 + 15%	\$24,500
\$75,750	\$94,050	\$8,762.50 + 25%	\$75,750
\$94,050	\$124,050	\$13,337.50 + 27%	\$94,050
\$124,050	\$145,050	\$21,437.50 + 25%	\$124,050
\$145,050	\$217,000	\$26,687.50 + 28%	\$145,050
\$217,000	\$381,400	\$46,833.50 + 33%	\$217,000
\$381,400	----	\$101,085.50 + 35%	\$381,400

Personal Exemptions and Standard Deductions are the same as for 2009 except the personal property deduction of up to \$500 for Singles and up to \$1,000 for Couples are not available at this time but may be added during the year.

Larry T. Shaff, Federation Service Officer

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### **SC FEDERATION NARFE-PAC**

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

March 2010 has again been designated as NARFE-PAC Month, and is the cover feature of the March issue of the NARFE magazine. The NARFE-PAC article is titled "NARFE-PAC - Political Might Multiplied" and is a "must read" for all members. Members will also receive a special NARFE-PAC fund- raising letter from President Baptiste in March. Chapters are urged to make a pitch for NARFE-PAC at every meeting. There is a coupon in the NARFE magazine that can be used to make a donation to NARFE-PAC. The NARFE-PAC report below reflects the receipts by chapter for our state and covers the twelve months of 2009, taking us to the midpoint of the 2009-2010 election cycle.

Location	Chapter	Contributors	Amount
North Charleston	72	2	\$70.00
Columbia	87	6	\$120.00
Spartanburg	560	6	\$150.00
Newberry	772	1	\$35.00
Aiken	934	4	\$72.00
Charleston	1013	3	\$40.00
Myrtle Beach	1015	4	\$120.00
Beaufort	1021	6	\$120.00
Summerville	1082	1	\$30.00
Orangeburg	1170	4	\$105.00
Pawley's Island	1958	1	\$25.00
State of SC	****	38	\$887.00

Source: NARFE A250 Report, prepared - 1/5/2010

ERNEST J. WILLIAMS, JR.

SC Federation NARFE-PAC Chair

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### **NARFE FEEA**

(David Unwin - FEEA Coordinator)

Please note the scholarship application on page 47 of the February NARFE magazine. If you are a NARFE member and have children or grand children who are eligible please encourage them to submit an application. The application form for a range of educational scholarships offered by and through the Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund (FEEA) for the school year beginning this fall is now available on the FEEA website. Applications must be postmarked by March 26, 2010. The website contains both eligibility requirements and directions for completing the application. Download the application form at [www.feea.org](http://www.feea.org)

There will be a NARFE FEEA table at the SC state convention. Please come by and pay us a visit and learn more about FEEA!

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### **NEWS FROM OUR CHAPTERS**

- Florence Chapter 960 President, Jesse Adams, makes sure his chapter members get the chance to

promptly review the Monthly Federation newsletter. When he gets the e-mail notifying him that the newsletter has been published on the Federation Website and is also attached to the e-mail, he forwards it to all of his chapter members with e-mail addresses. Good communication to the members of Chapter 960.

- Charlie Neal, long time Spartanburg Chapter 560 Member, and venerable Federation Historian has suffered a minor stroke.
- Larry McElynn of the Hilton Head Island chapter 2258 was appointed to the South Carolina Judiciary as a Judge in the Beaufort County Magistrates Court. Larry retired as a U.S. Drug Enforcement Agent-in-Charge and has been active in law enforcement organizations. His appointment empowers him to issue arrest and search warrants and presides over controversies not exceeding \$7,500.
- One of the Greenville Chapter 121 members, Reginald Hinrichs Passed away last month. The Chapter contacted the family to express sympathy to the family. Mr. Hinrich's daughter was so impressed by the action, that she came to the February Chapter Meeting to tell of how much this little gesture was appreciated and how much NARFE meant to her 96 year old father.
- Chapter 2258 Member, Susan Joy Jesella was awarded a coveted Sun City Sunny Award for her notable performance as the angel in the ballet sequence of "The Little House of Uncle Thomas" that appeared in the musical the "King & I". Often performing in ballets, her solo performances are always graceful and outstanding, and we are happy to see she has received such recognition.

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## **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**

### **PRESIDENT**

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### **REGION III NAT'L FIELD VICE-PRESIDENT**

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**NEWSLETTER DEADLINES: Last day of the month preceding publication.**