

November 2010

NOTE FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

(Bob Muller - Federation Newsletter Editor)

As a result of change in my home communications provider, I have had an e-mail and home phone change. Please change your address book to reflect these changes:

Home address is the same. Home Phone number is **(864) 228-7927**

E-mail addresses are:

narfnewsletter@charter.net (Preferred for newsletter information.)

bobmuller62@msn.com

bobmuller62@gmail.com

Feel free to use any of these three, I will receive e-mails from whichever one it is sent to. Be sure you remove the broadstar.net address from your records. Anything sent to that address will be lost. I've had several e-mails sent to my old **broadstar.net** account, but I cannot read them any longer. Thanks!

MESSAGE FROM THE FEDERATION PRESIDENT

(Jeanette Keepers - Federation President)

The holiday season is here, whether we're ready or not! There are a couple of important tasks at hand, however, before you start enjoying these next two months. I urge you to get out and vote on Tuesday, November 2nd. I also encourage you to volunteer for any unfilled position on the slate of officers for your NARFE chapter. Step up and do your part to keep your chapter strong.

This brings me to my concern about the health and well-being of some, or perhaps most, of our South Carolina chapters. Over time, I have come to realize that NARFE members can be categorized as a certain "type" which I've labeled the "**A's**", the "**B's**" or the "**C's**". Obviously, this observation of mine is just that: a personal, non-scientific assessment and has nothing to do with the other already well-known personality types you've heard about. The characteristics or makeup of these types is certainly not unique to our state or even to our organization. Churches, civic organizations and social clubs everywhere have their own set of "**A's**, **B's** or **C's**". It is one thing to identify what type you are and yet another to determine how you can change to a healthier category, if necessary.

The folks I label as the "**A's**" are the "**Apathetic**". They believe it's not their responsibility to attend meetings. After all, they pay their dues, even if they often have to be sent a second dues notice reminder. If they do come, their attendance is spotty, at best. Their participation is minimal and their contact with other members is almost non-existent. They also feel it's not their responsibility or duty to volunteer to serve on a committee or to accept a position of leadership within the chapter. Their excuses are many: "I don't have what it takes", "I'm too busy in my other organizations", "I'd be too nervous in front of people", and the most frequently used one, "I'm not worried, because someone else will do it". In any given organization, the "A's" account for about 90 percent of the membership.

The "**C's**" are the "**Committed**". They are who the "**A's**" are counting on to keep the chapter going. And they do so in spades. They often wear several hats as chapter officers. They volunteer for committees to plan special events like booths at Health Fairs, floats in local parades and "Meet the Candidate" visits. They call or visit the shut-in NARFE members and often provide them rides to chapter meetings. They don't stop here. They're very involved in other organizations, their church or synagogue, in community outreach and in volunteering at hospitals or soup kitchens. Because they are so busy and are doing such a tremendous job,



Jeanette Keepers - President

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they are too easily prone to becoming "**B's**", which I'll explain shortly. I would be remiss in not stating the obvious: many elderly members who are unable to attend meetings are "**C's**". They served well, often as officers at Chapter and Federation levels. They did their best to further NARFE's mission, as long as they were physically able. Many of these folks are Honorary, Life or Dues Withholding members and my thanks go out to them for having done so much and for having remained members in good standing.

The "**B's**" are the "**Burned-Out**". They had given their all, year after year, receiving no help or cooperation from the majority of chapter members. Now they are tired, fed up and demoralized. They still believe in the importance of NARFE and all it stands for, but they've become leery of subjecting themselves to more of the stress, angst and frustration of trying to keep things moving forward within their chapter. Rarely do these folks become "**A's**". While they maintain their membership in NARFE, they just stop coming to meetings, for fear they'll be saddled with more of the same that drove them to this point.

I've laid this out rather simplistically, but I'm sure you get my point. Sally DePreker, SC Federation 1VP, offers some excellent solutions to the dilemma we're facing in her article below. I'd like to offer one more. The SC Federation Convention this April 11 - 13, will be a departure from the norm in that we'll be holding training seminars in Recruiting, Retention/Mentoring, Legislation ("What's NARFE Doing For You?") and follow-up Q&A sessions with the subject matter experts. Plan to be there, to roll up your sleeves and to get empowered. Learn what works for other chapters and how you can tweak suggestions to fit your situation. We cannot let our chapters fail because we haven't explored outside the proverbial box!

Kindest regards, all, and have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Jeanette M. Keepers
SC Federation President

MESSAGE FROM THE FEDERATION 1ST VICE PRESIDENT



Sally DePreker - 1st VP

(Sally DePreker - 1st Vice-President)

YOU NEED NARFE AND NARFE NEEDS YOU!

Each month when I sit down to write my article for the Newsletter, I first research the other Federation websites and newsletters for ideas, information, and inspiration. Believe me, I am quite the plagiarizer! I hope no one minds because my intentions are good-to promote and support NARFE. This is a very worthwhile organization and we need to keep that in mind whether it's paying our dues, recruiting a new member, or assuming responsibility within our chapter. In my research this month, I came upon the perfect answer to anyone that questions the importance of NARFE membership:

In order that the retired employees may receive from the government of the United States remuneration to which their long and faithful service entitles them; to aid them in securing their rights under the retirement law; for the promotion of their general welfare; and to secure legislation perfecting the retirement law, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association has been formed.

That's been the purpose of NARFE since 1921. A member from one of our California chapters put it very aptly when he wrote about the means NARFE uses to accomplish this purpose, "We work very hard to maintain a political but strictly non-partisan position in our endeavors. NARFE has members from every conceivable political party, but we put aside the partisan in favor of the welfare of the whole-what is good for millions of federal workers and their families is also good for the country and must be protected."

This is the time of year when most chapters are electing officers. In our chapter, the officers' slate from year to year doesn't change all that much. That's the problem. Each of us needs to consider stepping up and assuming one of the "official" leadership roles in our chapter. Otherwise, those who do volunteer are eventually going to fall victim to burn out and then our chapter will become a chapter in distress. No one wants to be the president, no one wants to be the vice president, or the secretary, or the treasurer. No one wants to volunteer to be on the phone committee or the membership committee. No one wants to assume the responsibility of being the legislation chair or the service officer. The only way to prevent this upsetting situation is for each of us to seriously commit to the well-being of our chapter and take that important step toward becoming part of a team that insures your chapter's good health. If all the offices are filled and everyone works together, then the amount of time required to fulfill those responsibilities is minimal, no more than an hour or so each month. Even if you don't volunteer this time, get involved as an apprentice or helper and learn the job. It is interesting and quite fulfilling.

I'm emailing two forms to your chapter presidents and membership chairs that may help your chapter. The first is something you might want to include in the new member packet I wrote about last month. It's a listing

of all the information booklets OPM has available for retirees. OPM sent a representative to the NARFE Convention in Grand Rapids and while talking to her, I found out that we can receive an up-to-date accounting of our retirement benefits, i.e., the dollar amount of survivor benefit payable at this time, life insurance amounts, and the amount of money left in our retirement account. We can receive any of these information booklets and the updated PERSONALIZED RETIREMENT BOOKLET (PRB) by either calling or emailing OPM. I called OPM last week and requested an update for myself and was told I'll receive my PRB within two weeks and that that particular item is processed faster by telephone request than by online request. The other form is a Volunteer Participation survey. It gives a brief explanation of officer/chair duties that may help to quell any apprehension someone might have about assuming chapter responsibilities. It too will be useful for a new member packet. In closing, I wish each chapter success in coming up with a great slate of officers for next year. As chapters, we need to get the right people in the right jobs; we need to recognize and reward our most valuable members, and we need to develop a sense of community within our chapters. Working together we can help NARFE to help us.

Sally DePreker
1st VP, NARFE, SC Federation
smdepreker@sc.rr.com (843) 664-0488

LET'S WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

(Sally DePreker - 1st Vice-President)

New Members September 2010. Check out our new members. If you see a familiar name, contact that person and say how glad you are they've joined NARFE.

Chapter 72, North Charleston

Armando Savet, Mt Pleasant

Chapter 87, Columbia

R. Dodge Frederick, Columbia

Eunice Hendrix, Columbia

Juanita Reynolds, Columbia

Dr. Joseph Thompson, Columbia

Carol Wood, Columbia

Loretta, Canonico, Lexington (transferred from Chapter 1260,
Southern Prince George County, MD)

Chapter 121, Greenville

James Schempp, Greer

Chapter 1013, Charleston

Helen Wylie, Folly Beach

Recruiters September 2010 - Congratulations to the following members for their recruiting efforts:

Pauline Ray, Chapter 1013, 1 new member

Rebecca McKiver, Chapter 87, 1 new member

Joe Hooker, Chapter 121, 1 new member

Barbara Bryan, Chapter 1082, 1 new member

Keep up the good work!

Chapter 1015, Myrtle Beach

Royal Spofford, Conway

Guy Tavel, Little River

Chapter 1082, Summerville

Angela Cooks, Monck Corner

Barbara Ellis, Summerville

Chapter 1170, Orangeburg

Darryl, Day, Orangeburg

NARFE AND THE ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Together in the fight against Alzheimer's Since 1985, members of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) have played a major role in seeking a cure for Alzheimer's disease. In collaboration with the Alzheimer's Association, NARFE members have donated over \$8 million to Alzheimer's research-and that's something we can be proud of. But, we still have more to do. Today someone new faces Alzheimer's disease every 70 seconds, and experts predict that 10 million U.S. baby boomers will develop Alzheimer's disease in their lifetimes. The efforts of NARFE members to raise funds and awareness for the Alzheimer's Association are now more important than ever to advance research into viable treatments and a possible cure for this disease.

NARFE works to collect funds for and to support the Alzheimer's research at all levels, National Regional. Federation and Chapter. At the federation level, the federation president appoints a State Alzheimer's Coordinator, who works with the Region Alzheimer's Coordinator for his/her respective region. The State Alzheimer's Coordinator maintains records of chapter contributions and forwards such funds with a transmittal

letter each month to the Alzheimer's Association in Chicago. Copies of the transmittal letters are also sent each month (if funds have been collected) to the appropriate Region Alzheimer's Coordinator and appropriate federation president.

At the chapter level, each chapter president appoints a Chapter Alzheimer's Chair, who coordinates local fund-raising, sends funds to the State Coordinator (see form F-10 for detailed guidelines on handling funds), monitors volunteer hours for their local Alzheimer's program (support groups, day care center, etc.) and reports these hours to their local Alzheimer's Association Chapter. The NARFE chapter chair also assists the chapter program chair to arrange for speakers knowledgeable about Alzheimer's-related topics and cooperates with the chapter public relations officer in attracting media attention to the chapter's Alzheimer's efforts. [Note: NARFE National Headquarters is notified of the appointment of the Chapter Alzheimer's Chair via the F-7 Form.]

FEDERATION STATE CONVENTION 2011

(Jeanette Keepers - Convention Chair)

And speaking of Conventions, don't forget to mark April 11, 12 & 13, 2011 on your calendar for the Annual South Carolina Federation Convention at Hickory Knob State Park in McCormick, SC. We'll have more on this beautiful spring setting in upcoming newsletters. The only full-service resort in the S.C. State Park Service, Hickory Knob rests on rolling, wooded shoreline alongside 70,000-acre Strom Thurmond Reservoir on the Savannah River: South Carolina's "West Coast." Serene and tucked away, the location is another plus for this destination, with picturesque, historic small towns such as Abbeville and Greenwood nearby and Aiken and Anderson (and Clemson) just an easy drive away.



LOOKING FOR A SPEAKER OR MEETING TOPIC?

(Barbara Brayan - Summerville Chapter 1082 & SC Federation Treasurer)

For our Chapter meeting in September we invited Nich Godfrey, a representative from an organization which could be very important to a lot of our members (and non-members) here in South Carolina.

The South Carolina Equipment Distribution Program (SCEDP) is a state-funded agency that provides free enhanced phones and alerting devices to residents with hearing or speech impairments. Those who qualify for the program are provided free equipment to use for as long as they remain in the state.

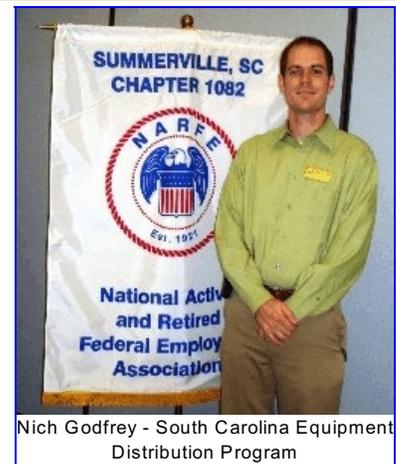
The program reaches out to people who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, blind/low vision with hearing loss, and speech impaired. People can apply to SCEDP by choosing a product that meets their needs, obtaining a professional certification of a qualifying disability, and submitting the required application materials. There are no income requirements. You must be a legal, permanent resident of South Carolina and have a home phone (not a cell phone)

SCEDP products are funded by a surcharge on all South Carolina residential and business phone lines. The surcharge appears on everyone's phone bill. Since everyone pays into the program, they encourage all eligible residents to apply.

The presentation provides a hands-on demonstration of their most popular equipment and an explanation of the application process. It typically takes about 20 minutes. They welcome the presentations because much of their outreach depends on the seniors spreading the word among themselves.

You can contact them by any of the following means to obtain an application or the Chapters can contact Nich directly for a presentation at Ngodfrey@scsdb.org:

by mail: 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 120, Columbia, SC 29210
toll free: 877.225.8337 (Voice) | 877.889.8337 (TTY)
local: 803.896.8337 (Voice) | 803.896.8334 (TTY)
fax: 803.896.8345
e-Mail: AmplifyLife@scedp.org
The website is: www.scedp.org



NARFE Legislative Chair November 2010 Report

(John Geiger - Federation Legislative Chair)

This newsletter will be an election eve effort. To stay current in the legislative arena, look for a mid-month legislative update from me, so we can emphasize the work ahead in getting on the new Folks transition team agenda. At the State level, for example, the transition teams begin their work in earnest after Thanksgiving, learning the real issues and making plans to take over their new jobs. At the Federal level, now is the time to follow-up with the NARFE education of who we are and what are our issues.

President Margaret L. Baptiste, NARFE's national president, urges each NARFE member to contact his or her Congressional delegation to urge them to include retirees from the public sector in any "in lieu COLA" payment likely to be considered during the mid November lame duck session.

The House leadership is eager to consider legislation after the November 2nd election to provide a \$250 payment to Social Security beneficiaries. However, it is unclear whether the over one million federal, state and local government retirees not eligible to receive Social Security benefits and facing higher Medicare premiums would be eligible. Remember, during the consideration of the 2009 Stimulus bill, over a million retired public employees were initially excluded from a \$250 payment to Social Security recipients, but later - through NARFE's efforts - a \$250 refundable tax credit for public service retirees was included in the legislation which became law.

Now is the moment to use the NARFE Legislative Action Center to easily send your Representative and both Senators a prepared letter. The specific link is <http://capwiz.com/narfe/issues/alert/?alertid=18873501>.

NARFE 's toll free number for the Capitol Switchboard makes it easy to call your Representative and two Senators. The NARFE toll-free number for the Capitol Switchboard, 1-866-220-0044, allows callers to ask for any Representative or Senator by name. When doing so, tell your Congressional delegation the following: **"I urge you to include federal, state and local government retirees who are not eligible for Social Security in the \$250 payment to seniors."**

Thanks for your support of NARFE in these "interesting" times.

John Geiger
SC Federation Legislative Officer
jigeiger@aol.com

Congressional Contacts:

You can obtain your Senator and Representatives mailing address and e-mail address at this SC NARFE Federation Link:

http://www.scnarfe.org/index_files/Page299.htm

Simply click your mouse on the link above and then click on the officials name. You'll be taken to his web site and be able to contact his office. There are a number of useful links on this page also.

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS

Members of the Columbia Chapter #87, Columbia, Clara Gillentine, Mary Hough Robinson, Linda Toney, Paul Donahue, and William Toney visited Congressman James Clyburn's Columbia Office on October 4th. Although they did not meet with Congressman Clyburn personally, they did convey the message from NARFE to his Field representatives.



Front Row: Carole Smith (Cong. Clyburn's Caseworker Supervisor); Clara Gillentine; Mary Hough Robinson; Linda Toney Back Row: Paul Donahue; John H. Rickenbacker (Cong. Clyburn's Field Representative); William Toney; Ernest J. Williams, Jr.

NARFE FEEA

(David Unwin - SC Federation FEEA Coordinator)

During the SC NARFE convention 21-23 April 2010 in Spartanburg I challenged each District to donate at least \$200 to the NARFE FEEA fund. The challenge continues!.

Here is an update of funds contributed. These include monies donated by chapters for the computed which was used as a NARFE FEEA raffle item at the national convention. Standings of donations which have been reported to me as of October 10, 2010.

- District 1 \$50.00
- District 2 \$188.50
- District 3 0
- District 4 \$50.00
- District 5 0
- District 6 \$11.00
- District 7 \$250.00

Donations to meet the challenge are still needed. Here are some ideas chapters have used to raise funds.

- Collect loose change from everyone at the chapter meeting.
- Bake a cake and raffle it off.
- Conduct a 50/50 raffle.
- Ask everyone to bring an unwanted gift item and conduct a silent auction.
- Have a yard sale.

NARFE-FEEA
PROGRAM FUND CONTRIBUTION FORM

YES! I would like to help with my contribution.

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

NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund Amount \$ _____

NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Fund Amount \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

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

Make check payable to:
NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund or
NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Fund
Please mail coupon
and check to:
FEEA c/o David Unwin
110 Sandtrap Road
Summerville SC 29483

FROM THE FEDERATION HISTORIAN

(Paul D. Donahue, NARFE SCFED Historian)

North Charleston & NARFE Chapter #72 History

From the 17th century until the Civil War, this area was occupied primarily by huge Indigo and rice plantations. The Retreat Plantation dates from 1680 and the Marshlands Plantation dates from 1682. Mons Repos came into being around 1798. All three plantations were combined in later years to form the Charleston Naval Base and Charleston Naval Shipyard. The large plantations were continually subdivided into smaller farms as the population began moving northward. After the Civil War, phosphate fertilizer plants began to spring up, with extensive strip mining occurring between the Ashley River and Broad Path (Meeting Street road). Since the early 20th century, the section of unincorporated Charleston County that later became the City of North Charleston, had been designated by the business and community leaders from the City of Charleston as a place for development of industry and military and other business sites. The first industry started in this area was the E.P. Burton Lumber Company. In 1901, the United States Navy Shipyard was established with agreements between the Federal Government and local City of Charleston leaders. Shortly thereafter, the General Asbestos and Rubber Company built the world's largest asbestos mill under one roof.

From World War II through the 1960s, many people who lived in this region, referred to by Charlestonians as the North Area, were unhappy about the way parts of their community were being developed. They wanted the citizens in the area to have direct control over future development. Many attempts to create their own city were defeated via court rulings. As a means of bringing government closer to the people, an incorporation referendum was held on April 27, 1971. On June 12, 1972, after a series of legal battles, the South Carolina Supreme Court upheld the referendum results and North Charleston became a city with John E. Bourne Jr. as its first mayor. The month concluded with the city's first big annexation, south of Bexley Street between Spruill Avenue and the Charleston Naval Shipyard. By December, North Charleston had become the 4th largest city in South Carolina after annexing the Naval Base, the Air Force Base and the Charleston International Airport. Through continued growth, the city became the 3rd largest city in South Carolina on July 3, 1976. On June 12, 1982, North Charleston had a population of 65,000 in a 30.5-mile area. In ten short years the city's growth rate was 250 percent. Unfortunately, the eye of Hurricane Hugo hit Charleston in 1989, causing over \$2.8 billion in damage to the South Carolina Low country.

The Charleston Naval Base remained the largest employer of civilians in South Carolina into the 1990s. The influence of Low country legislators and the threat of nuclear attack played an important role in keeping North Charleston's bases open in the face of periodic attempts at closure. However, in the early 1990s, with the resolution of the Cold War and impending defense budget cuts, the Charleston Navy Base was once again on the chopping block. In 1993, the Charleston Naval Base was given a closure date of April 1, 1996. With an annual expenditure of approximately 1.4 Billion dollars the closing of the base was a blow to the entire Tri-County economy. Over the years, billions of dollars had flowed into the region's

economy and hundreds of thousands of jobs were provided to military and civilian personnel, the vast majority being civilians. Many military personnel who worked at or passed through the base returned to the city to retire. Since the closure of the Charleston Naval Base and the Charleston Naval Shipyard, parts of the base and dry-docks have been leased out to various government and private businesses. Community parks for North Charleston have been established on old base grounds.

In October 2009, Boeing Aircraft announced the selection of North Charleston for its 787 Dreamliner aircraft assembly and delivery prep center. This has positioned North Charleston as one of the major aircraft centers of the world. Thousands of new jobs will provide quality work for residents of the city and the entire Tri-County area. With the arrival of Boeing Aircraft, the city has gained international importance and stature as one of only three places in the world for the manufacture and assembly of wide-body commercial aircraft. The other two places are in and around Everett, Washington and Toulouse, France.

As part of an initiative by the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide mail order prescriptions to veterans using computerization, at strategic locations, North Charleston is home to a Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy (CMOP).

One could say that with the many governmental agencies in the area it would be natural to establish a NARFE Chapter and that is exactly what happened on February 11, 1952. It was then that North Charleston's NARFE Chapter #72 was chartered. Chapter officers at the time were Simon Sorentrud, President., David S. Burnette, VP, Marvin J. Taylor, Secretary and Nellie Stoppelbein, Treasurer.

Like so many others, early chapter records are fragmented and chronology is almost impossible to assimilate. It is recorded as one of the charter member chapters of the South Carolina Federation of NARFE Chapters, having joined on May 14, 1964. As one might expect, it is difficult to reconstruct names, places or even dates of memorable events. The following chapter members have served as Chapter Presidents: Simon Sorentrud; A. M. Willis; Lawrence M. Rideway; Harry R. Mack, 1964; John C. Oglesby; Leonard Reddy; W. R. Chassereau; Dan G. Varner, 1972-73; Vincent J. Dogliani, 1974-75, 1985; Franklin C. Parker, 1976; Raymond L. Deneaux; Lucille F. Waters, 1979; Mary S. Welch; Wilford C. Corbin; Jack E. Milton, 1984; William J. Sheppard, Sr.; Samuel F. Boatwright, 1986, 1989; T. B. Long, Sr., 1987; Margaret L. Baptiste; Thomas W. Swindler, 1994; Robert J. Meyers, 1995; Judy Kemp, 1996-97; Archie Davis, 1998; Ruth W. Shuman, 1999; Charles C. Edgeworth, 2000; Ann Infinger, 2001; Esther Crandall and Frank L. Stevens, 2007-10.



Chapter 72 Past Presidents Celebrating 50 years. L-R Smiley Corbin 1981-82, Ann Infinger 2001, Ruth Shuman 1999, Judy Kemp 1996-97, Archie Davis 1998, Claire Willett 2002, Margaret Baptiste 1988, Jack Milton 1983 & 1991-93, Robert Myers 1995.

The chapter holds its' monthly Chapter meetings on the Third Friday of each month beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Cherokee Place Methodist Church, Cosgrove & Rivers Ave. One exception is their December meeting is held on the 2nd Friday. Guest speakers are featured at nearly all meetings. Chapter 72 has hosted three annual Federation Conventions, 1990-91 and 1998. The chapter maintains a local SERVICE OFFICE at a nearby military facility that is staffed by part-time volunteers. Many NARFE #72 chapter members went on to become South Carolina Federation Presidents, including: J.C. Oglesby, 1967, Lucille F. Waters, 1982; Margaret L. Baptiste, 1990-91 and 2006; Judy Kemp, 2002 and Esther Crandall, 2007-08.

Probably the most notable member of Chapter 72 is Margaret L. Baptiste, who has held almost every elective office position available, including multiple terms as President. From there she became the Federation President (again, several times), while also editing the SCFED Newsletter, to Region III National Vice President and from that elevated position on up to a two-term National Vice President. This was followed by two-terms as National President, which ended October 31, 2010. Simply stated, there's not enough white space available in this article to account for all of her many accomplishments during her years as a NARFE spousal member of which she is, and we should be, extremely proud.

One item of considered importance concerning Margaret L. Baptiste, and worthy of restating, is when she was SCFED Legislative Officer, she spearheaded a class-action suit against the State of South Carolina, basically seeking relief from the state's tax laws and requesting legal provisions, in approaching equality of treatment for federal and state retirement benefits. Essentially it stipulated that there was inequity in the system, as federal retirees were not treated similarly as state workers, when it came to paying taxes on retirement pensions. Moreover, it was seeking retribution from past taxes, dating back to 1985 (just as far as the law would

allow). The Attorney for the South Carolina Tax Commission quipped, "that it was unfair to even ask three million South Carolinians to pay out \$200,000,000 to 60,000 federal retirees".

It appears that this matter became embroiled in South Carolina's Lower Courts, then onto the State Supreme Court, finally up to the Supreme Court of the United States and back down again! One of the major issues being considered were whether the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Davis v. Michigan Department of Treasury (1989) had any bearing, as it may under any circumstance be "applied" non-retroactively so as to defeat federal retirees' entitlement to refunds of unconstitutional state taxes imposed upon their federal annuities. Meanwhile, about 14 other states had similar lawsuits in effect; all of which were amicably upheld and equitably resolved, over time, with appropriate refunds, as was South Carolina's. Originally it was thought that the presiding judge would award the attorneys a fee of 31%. However, negotiations brought this down to 19.5% which amounted to approximately \$14 million. It is amazing when you consider that this matter dragged on in the courts through 1993 and Margaret L. Baptiste persevered to see it come to a positive conclusion. I say that we owe a ton of gratitude to her for her due diligence in this matter.

On that note let us now welcome her back home to South Carolina. In Washington, as the saying goes, Mission Accomplished.

NOTE FROM THE FEDERATION SERVICE OFFICER

(Larry Shaff, Federation Service Officer)

New Thrift Savings Plan Beneficiary Form

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Designation of Beneficiary form, TSP-3, was recently revised and replaces previous editions. Once filled out, this designation of beneficiary form will stay in effect until either the TSP participant submits another valid TSP-3 form or the participant cancels the original designation. Members of the uniformed services who participate in the TSP also had a designated beneficiary form, TSP-U-3. But TSP-U-3 is no longer available. The new Form TSP-3 should be used both by members of the Uniformed Services with TSP accounts and by federal employees/retirees with TSP accounts. Form TSP- 3 can be downloaded from the TSP Web site at <https://www.tsp.gov/forms/formsPubs.shtml>.

Those employees/retirees and members of the uniformed services who fill out a new beneficiary form should make a copy of the form for their records and then mail the original form to Thrift Savings Plan, P.O. Box 385021, Birmingham, AL 35238. Alternatively, the form can be faxed to: 1-866-817-5023.

If no TSP-3 form is filed, or if the TSP participant chooses that the TSP pay death benefits in an Order of Precedence, then Form TSP-3 need not be filed. The following is the TSP's Order of Precedence:

1. Widow or Widower; if none, then
2. Child or Children equally and descendants of deceased children by representation; if none, then
3. Parents equally or to the surviving parent; if none, then
4. Appointed Executor or Administrator of the estate; if none, then
5. Next of Kin who would be entitled to the decedent's estate under the laws of the state in which the decedent resided at the time of death.

In order to name specific beneficiaries to receive a TSP account after the TSP participant dies, the participant must complete form TSP-3, and the form must be received by the TSP before the participant's death. Only form TSP-3 is valid for designating beneficiaries; neither a Will nor a Court Order (e.g., a Divorce Decree) is valid for the disposition of a TSP account.

The share of any primary beneficiary who dies before the TSP participant will be distributed proportionately among the surviving designated TSP beneficiaries. If none of the designated beneficiaries is alive at the time of the participant's death, the order of Precedence discussed above will be followed.

Larry T. Shaff,
Federation Service Officer

YOUR FEDERATION OFFICERS FOR 2010-2011

Your 2010-11 Federation Officers are as follows:

President.....Jeanette Keepers, Spartanburg, Chapter 560
1st Vice President.....Sally Depreker, Florence, Chapter 960
2nd Vice President.....John Neely, Myrtle Beach, Chapter 1013
Secretary.....Esther Crandall, North Charleston, Chapter 72
Treasurer.....Barbara Bryan, Summerville, Chapter 1082
Historian.....Paul Donahue, Columbia Chapter 87

Chaplain.....Nellie Bodenhamer, Columbia, Chapter 87
Sergeant-at-Arms.....David Unwin, Summerville, Chapter 1082
Immediate Past-PresidentJohn Geiger, Aiken, Chapter 934

District Field Officers with Chapters in their Districts shown:

- District #1...Charles Giavelli, Summerville, Chapter 1082: N. Charleston 72, Charleston 1013, Summerville 1082
- District #2...Ernest Williams, Columbia, Chapter 87: Columbia 87, Aiken 934, Orangeburg 1170
- District #3...W. Dan Love, Anderson, Chapter 825: Anderson 825, Greenwood 920, Clemson 1170
- District #4...Joe McCarty, Greenville, Chapter 121: Greenville 121, Spartanburg 560
- District #5...Moses Moultrie, Sumpter, Chapter 1786: Newberry 772, Rock Hill 1180, Sumter 1786, Camden 2319
- District #6...Jesse Adams, Florence, Chapter 960: Florence 960, Myrtle Beach 1015, Pawley's Island 1958
- District #7...Bill Nicol, Hilton Head, Chapter 2258: Beaufort 1021, Walterboro 1185, Hilton Head 2258

These officers make up the Federation Executive Board.

NARFE FUTURE EVENTS CALENDAR

NARFE Federation Executive Board, Committee Officers, Chairpersons & Chapter Presidents - January 10, 2011, 10:30 am, Seawell's, Columbia, SC

NARFE SC Federation Convention - Hickory Knob Resort State Park, McCormick, SC. April 11-13, 2011

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

NATIONAL NARFE Convention - Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando FL, August 24-28, 2014.

NARFE South Carolina Federation of Chapters

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