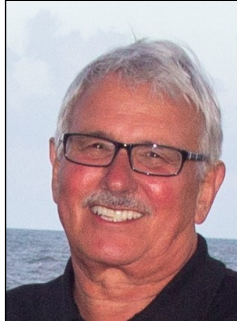


*Serving Active & Retired
Federal Employees*

January 2019 Volume 56-Issue 1

**South Carolina Federation
President Robert Shear**
robertshear.narfe87@hotmail.com
Telephone or text: 803-331-9567



Greetings South Carolina NARFE chapter and non-chapter members. I have two issues to discuss with you.

First, you'll find a ballot inside this newsletter for your use to vote for our South Carolina federation elected officers for the coming year. This is our second election to implement one member, one vote to ensure everyone's voice is heard. A fillable ballot is also on the sclarfe.org website. You may vote either on-line or mail in your ballot. Either way, I hope everyone votes. We have four great candidates ready to serve in 2019.

Second, the form on page 3 is provided so you can register to attend our upcoming federation conference scheduled for April 29-May 1, 2019 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia, SC. **The registration form is due by April 7** and provides information needed to make your hotel reservation. The registration form is also available in a fillable format on our sclarfe.org website.

April 7 is the last day for reservations at the Embassy Suites. This is a great hotel and their staff has been very accommodating to us for this conference. Please also note that our conference is later this year so competition for rooms will be greater. Because of this, make your reservation sooner rather than later.

Best regards and I hope to see you in Columbia in April 2019 for some great training and team building. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need further assistance.

**Conference Committee Chair
and Columbia Chapter 87
President Ernest Williams**
ejohnwjr@earthlink.net



**HAPPY NEW YEAR AND
GREETINGS TO ALL!**

Chapter 87 of Columbia, SC, the Capitol City, is looking forward to hosting the 55th Annual South Carolina NARFE Federation Conference this year. The Conference will be held from April 29 to May 1, 2019, in Columbia at the Embassy Suites Hotel. Please post the date to your calendars and make plans to attend.

The registration form and reservation information are included in this newsletter on page 3. So again, make plans **early** to register and reserve your room.

Our Columbia Chapter membership and the federation planning team will be working diligently to make the 55th SC Federation Conference the best ever. Please make plans to join us.

SEE WHAT FOLLOWS IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Page 2 — Article by Region III Vice President, Mr. Clarence Robinson

Page 2 — Listing of chapter presidents

Insert pages (unnumbered) — 2019 Ballot to vote for South Carolina Federation president, executive vice president, secretary and treasurer

Page 3 — Conference Registration Form

Page 4 — Pictures of NARFE's new president, Ken Thomas, and secretary/treasurer, Kathy Hensley

Page 4 — Listing of federation elected officers

Save these dates!

**April 29-May 1, 2019 — 55th Annual
Conference of South Carolina NARFE
Federation for chapter/non-chapter members**

See reservation form on page 3 or
go to sclarfe.org

Questions or Comments — Call Bob Shear at
803-331-9567 or email
robertshear.narfe87@hotmail.com

March 10-13, 2019



LEGcon19
LEARN • ADVOCATE • LEAD

**NARFE Region III Vice
President Clarence Robinson**
crobin8145@att.net



Because of newsletter space limitations, the following items have been extracted (and renumbered) from Clarence's full National Executive Board (NEB) report:

1. With one bylaw exception, renewal forms were approved as submitted by federation presidents. The forms will be available as soon as they are printed. Let me know if you notice any problems with the new renewal forms.
2. Joyce Warner, CEO of FEEA, gave a presentation to the NEB about the 25% administrative fees for the Scholarship and Disaster Fund. She said that the increase in the fees came about after an audit revealed that FEEA was not charging enough for the services rendered. Since the scholarship submissions have already started, the NEB held off on making a decision until the NARFE CEO can meet again with FEEA and come back to the board with the results of additional negotiations. We did not vote on the contract because money is still coming in from the field for Scholarships and Disaster. Since NARFE is not a 501c3, eliminating the program at this time will shut down the Scholarship program and eliminate any tax deductibility. It is recommended that all Federations and Chapters continue the programs as we have in the past. A decision will be made at a later date. We don't know at this time how many total Scholarships will be awarded from NARFE. You will be updated as the NEB makes a decision on both programs.
3. An in-depth budget review presentation was given by Staff VP Joann DeCastro. There will be a move to change the current dues mix of 60% dues revenue from membership and 40% non-dues revenue (cards, calendars, etc.). Due to our continuing loss of members, we will either have to reverse the current trend and either increase membership or increase non-dues revenue. Everyone will be tasked with coming up with ways to increase membership and non-dues revenue. The goal is 60% non-dues revenue and 40% dues revenue. I welcome your feedback and ideas. Please encourage members

to donate to the cards, calendars, note pads, etc.

4. There was a presentation on the Association Management System (AMS) that is scheduled to go online around February or March 2019. The new system will integrate all reports we currently get from different people and sources at NARFE HQ. The NES will not be a separate system. The Gain/Loss Report will also be a part of the new AMS system. Gain/Loss reports will not be generated until the new system is online. The former President prepared the Gain/Loss Report and it was very time consuming. He has been contacted concerning giving us the information and source documents to prepare the Gain/Loss Report. The report will probably not be in the same form as it is currently. I will send out a separate email for your comments on how you want the Gain/Loss report to look.
5. A Federation President Contact list is being maintained and updated by Headquarters. There appears to be a problem with the Federation Presidents updating via the F-7. We will continue to work on this so a current report is available to the Federation Presidents to be able to communicate.
6. Future of the Federations and Chapters were discussed. NARFE is aging out and it is becoming harder and harder to get OFFICERS on the Chapter and Federation level. While there is no intent to close Chapters or Federations, the data shows that if the closing of Chapters continue at the current pace, additional action and strategies will have to be put in place to insure that NARFE can continue to meet the needs of their members. NARFE is not getting in the new blood required to keep our Chapters and Federations viable. The NEB is studying this problem for solutions.
7. According to Executive Director Barb Sido, the final tally for FEDCon 2018 was a \$26,000.00 loss due to one of our coalition partners not providing a speaker as promised.
8. LEGCon2019 will be held on March 10-13, 2019. The President is encouraging each federation to bring as many members as possible, especially CDL's, SL's, and members interested in Advocacy. A NEB meeting will also be held at March 8-10. All NARFE members are invited.
9. NARFE manuals are still being updated as needed. Check out narfe.org to see the updated manuals as they're posted.

South Carolina Federation Chapter Presidents

The women and men listed below are to be commended for their willingness to give their time and energy in support of NARFE in South Carolina. **Thank them when you see them in Columbia in April 2019!**

Chapter	President's Name	Chapter	President's Name
72 Greater Charleston Area	William Greenhill	1015 Myrtle Beach	Blake Crawford
87 Columbia	Ernest J. Williams	1021 Beaufort	Mary Gourdine
121 Greenville	John L. Thompson	1079 Clemson	Gail W. Cline
560 Spartanburg	George Goings	1082 Summerville	Patricia Whitely
772 Newberry	Deborah Hill	1180 Rock Hill	Judithanne P Hare
934 Aiken	John W. Geiger	2258 Hilton Head	Robert Huisman
960 Florence	Jesse Adams		

Official Ballot

South Carolina NARFE Federation 2019 Election

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

To vote, check the box opposite the name of your choice, like this:

To write-in a candidate not on the ballot, clearly print the name on the line provided for the office and check the box opposite the write-in line, like this:

ELECTED OFFICES

For President		For Executive Vice President	
One Year Term	Vote for not more than ONE	One Year Term	Vote for not more than ONE
George Blaine Lotz, Chapter 2258, Hilton Head/Bluffton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ernest Williams, Chapter 87, Columbia	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Write-in) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Write-in) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
For Secretary		For Treasurer	
One Year Term	Vote for not more than ONE	One Year Term	Vote for not more than ONE
Kevin Toevs, Chapter 1180, Rock Hill	<input type="checkbox"/>	Betty Hawkins, Chapter 87, Columbia	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Write-in) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Write-in) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Enter your NARFE membership ID # _____

Find your NARFE membership ID # on your narfe magazine label

#ABCDEFG *****CAR-RT LOT**R-040
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 JA2 NARF1 0001
 JANE SMITH
 1234 ANYWHERE LANE
 ANYTOWN, WA 12345-6789



Fold the ballot in half, seal by taping or stapling it closed, and add first class postage. Mail to the address shown on the outside of your ballot. There is also a fillable ballot you can use on the scnarfe.org website. When finished entering the information in the fillable form, **save it** and then email it to pwhitely@sc.rr.com.

IMPORTANT NOTE: To be counted, your ballot must contain your NARFE membership ID # (as shown on the label on the front of the NARFE magazine you received at your home address) and be received by Pat Whitely **no later than March 29, 2019.**

FROM

PLACE
FIRST CLASS
STAMP
HERE

Patricia Whitely
411 Woodward Blvd.
Summerville, SC 29483-3128



REGISTRATION FORM

**55TH ANNUAL SC NARFE FEDERATION
CONFERENCE — APRIL 29-MAY 1, 2019**

SIGN-IN: APRIL 29 (NOON TO 3:45 PM & 5:30 PM TO
6:30 PM) & APRIL 30 (7:30 AM TO 8:30 AM)

OPENING CEREMONY: APRIL 29 AT 4:00 PM

***Make hotel room reservations for SC NARFE Conference direct with:
Embassy Suites by Hilton — 200 Stonebridge Drive — Columbia, SC 29210
Toll Free Reservation: 1-800-EMBASSY***

On Line Reservation: To make an on line reservation, go to **embassysuites3.hilton.com** to book your room on line. Use the **group code NAR** to get the special conference rate. **Cut Off Date for Hotel Room Reservation is April 7, 2019.**

The special conference rate is \$126.00, plus 12% tax and 2% destination fee for a **total cost of \$143.64** per night. The special rate is good for a five day/night period from April 28-May 2, 2019. Late reservations are subject to availability and prevailing rate.

Start every day with a free cooked-to-order breakfast and, later in the day, drinks and snacks at the complimentary evening social. In room wi-fi and self parking are also complimentary. This all suite hotel is adjacent to Riverbanks Zoo and minutes from the Vista, USC, and state house.

Note: Use a separate convention registration form for each registrant.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE.

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 _____

(ONLY CHECK ONE) NARFE non-chapter member ___ Chapter member ___ Guest ___

NARFE Chapter No. ___ Chapter Name/Location _____

Current **Chapter Officer** Position/Positions _____

Current **Federation Officer** Position/Positions _____

Past **Federation President** (show dates of service) _____

SC NARFE Federation Conference registration fee is \$75.00 per person. The fee includes the reception Monday evening (at 6:30 pm) and banquet buffet (with two entrée selections) Tuesday evening (at 6:00 pm). **Please submit payment in full by April 7, 2019.** Late registration fee postmarked after April 7, 2019, is \$85.00.

Registration cancellations between April 8 and April 15, 2019, will be charged a \$15 handling fee and any cancellation between April 16 and April 28 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 NARFE Federation Conference and mailed with this registration to: SC NARFE Federation Conference, ATTN: Pat Whitely, 411 Woodward Blvd., Summerville, SC 29483

Special dietary needs — check boxes that apply. Vegetarian Gluten-free Dairy-free Kosher or other (please specify below)

Do not write in this area; it is for Treasurer use only:

Item No _____ Received _____ Check No _____ \$ Amount _____ Registrations _____ Deposit Date _____

Columbia, SC CHAPTER #87
 National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association
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TIME SENSITIVE

Two great pictures!



On the left, Ken Thomas, NARFE's new president, and Kathy Hensley, NARFE's new secretary/treasurer. Kathy is the former South Carolina federation president and Columbia, SC, chapter 87 president.

On the right, Ken Thomas is sworn in as NARFE's new president by former NARFE president, Joe Beaudoin.



SOUTH CAROLINA NARFE FEDERATION – ELECTED OFFICERS

Position	Name	Chapter	Email	Phone
PRESIDENT	ROBERT SHEAR	COLUMBIA	robertshear.narfe87@hotmail.com	803-331-9567
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT	BLAINE LOTZ	HILTON HEAD/ BLUFFTON	gblotz@yahoo.com	843-363-5204
SECRETARY	CLARA GILLENLINE	COLUMBIA	gillentinec803@aol.com	803-796-3106
TREASURER	BETTY HAWKINS	COLUMBIA	blhawkins@mindspring.com	803-438-6829