

**Serving Current and Retired
Federal Employees**

February 2015 Volume 51-Issue 4

President, Kathryn Hensley
kathrynhensley@hotmail.com

Once a year, the Federation sends a printed copy of the newsletter to every member in the state. We are now sending this copy prior to the state convention so that each member receives a copy of the convention registration form. Bob Shear, president of the Columbia chapter and Federation newsletter editor is the 2015 convention chair. I urge you to attend this year.

Because of limited space in this newsletter, very few reports are included. However, the next newsletter, which will be on line, will have reports from every committee and officer. If you have not entered your current email in the national data base, you can do that by going to the national web site and signing in as a member. If you need help, send me your email address and I will get it entered. I'm sure you do not want to miss any of our South Carolina news. If you are an eChapter member, please consider joining a chapter and taking an active role in NARFE.

On November 7, 2014, the Federation Executive Board and Committee Chairs met in Columbia. Draft minutes and then, after approval, the final minutes are posted on the Federation web site. If you have not logged into the web site, it is **www.scnarfe.org**. Our webmaster, Paul Donahue, has made some changes to the site. All chapters can access their site from the front page. We need more assistance for Paul so you IT folks can do a great service for your chapter and for the Federation by helping Paul.

Jerry Janci, former Federation President in Mississippi, was elected as our Region III Vice President to represent our region on the National Executive Board (NEB). Minutes from the NEB meetings can be found on the national web site, **www.narfe.org**. You must use your last name and member id number to enter the Members Only portal. The minutes are listed under the Resource Library on the Headquarters tab.

Please contact your District Field Officer (DFO) for updates and information. Their contact information and the officers' contact information are on page 4 of this newsletter. I am looking forward to meeting many of you at the 2015 State Convention in Columbia.

Convention Chair, Bob Shear
robertshear.narfe87@hotmail.com

It's an honor for me to be serving as chair of your 2015 state convention. It will be held in the downtown Marriott in Columbia. It's a beautiful hotel located in the heart of a great city that is undergoing a transformation.

You will not regret filling out the registration form on page 3 of this newsletter and mailing it in along with your check. I guarantee this will be money well spent.

Legislative Chair, John Geiger
jjgeiger@aol.com

The new Congress and a look back: Members of 114th Congress were sworn in on January 6, 2015. There is now a Republican majority in both chambers. The following are important Committee assignments for House and Senate members of South Carolina's delegation: 1) House Oversight and Government Reform: Cong. Trey Gowdy, R-4th District (member of the Government Operations Subcommittee) and Cong. Mick Mulvaney, R-5th Dist., 2) House Budget Committee: Cong. Tom Rice, R-7th Dist., and 3) the House Armed Services Committee: Cong. Joe Wilson, R-2nd Dist. (Chairman of Subcommittee for Intelligence, Emerging Threats and Capabilities), and 4) Cong. Jim Clyburn, D-6th Dist. as the Assistant Democratic Leader and an Advisor to the House Appropriations Committee. Senator Lindsey Graham is a member of the Budget and Armed Services Committees and Senator Tim Scott is a member of the Finance Committee.

Most NARFE issues will go through these committees. The delegation's presence on the Armed Services Committees is important to the State because of the large military bases and training centers. It is helpful for you to know which committees your Congressional members sit on, especially if they are on one of our committees of jurisdiction.

The NARFE document, "113th Congress Legislative Accomplishments" (which can be found in the February issue of *narfe* magazine) is handy to have available as a recruiting tool. The Continuing Resolution and Omnibus Spending Bill in December allowed for the continuation of Government operations through the remainder of the fiscal year (with the exception of the Department of Homeland Security to be renewed next month). Voting 'yes' on this important legislation were Cong. Wilson (the only House Republican in the SC Delegation to do so), Cong. Clyburn and Senator Lindsey Graham.

Outlook for NARFE members in the new Congress: "be alert for action items" according to NARFE President, Richard Thissen, to counter new challenges from a more solidly partisan House which were tempered in the Senate under Democrat control—and is no longer the case. Keep up on the issues and be an advocate.

South Carolina's Legislature convened January 13, 2015. NARFE will pursue renewed advocacy at the State level. State legislators may well provide updates in newsletters on pocket book issues (education, taxes, roads and bridges) that affect your quality of life. Get on their mailing lists. Plans are underway to visit the State House during our convention in Columbia in April. Don't miss this opportunity to talk face-to-face with your representatives!

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

WOW, we did IT!!! Thanks for everyone's support in reaching our 2015 \$11 Million National Goal. Our new 2016 goal is \$12 Million.

At the April 27-29, 2015, convention in Columbia, we will have a 50/50 drawing for Alzheimer's Disease Research. National Alzheimer's Research will receive 50% of total ticket sales and the remaining 50% will be divided for 1st prize (25% of sales) while 2nd and 3rd prize winners will split 25%. Tickets will be sold for this drawing in your chapter meetings before the April convention. We will also be selling tickets at the Convention. You do not have to be present to win.

At last year's convention, the 50/50 drawing raised a total of \$1,553.00 and the three individual winners split \$776.50 between themselves. 1st and 3rd place winners were from the Aiken Chapter and the 2nd place winner was from Newberry. A special 4th place winner was also selected and that person (from the Beaufort chapter) received a gift donated by our federation president, Kathy Hensley).

Tickets prices are \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00 or 15 tickets for \$10.00. When buying tickets, please write your name/chapter number on the back of each ticket. The use of stick-on address labels is encouraged. Remember, you do not have to be present to win and half of all money collected goes for Alzheimer's Research!

From April 1, 2013, through March 31, 2014, SC Chapters raised a total of \$7,840.81 toward Alzheimer's Research. From April 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, we sent \$2,717.90 to the national office. Everyone needs to increase giving in 2015 if we're to reach our 2016 goal of \$12 Million.

From April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014, the Myrtle Beach Chapter set the example for the rest of us by being first among SC Federation chapters in both per capita giving and total amount given (\$3,082.11). In the 50/50 drawing category, the Beaufort chapter raised the largest amount at \$250.00.

Again, special thanks to all the Chapter Alzheimer's coordinators, the various chapters and all of you for your continued support for Alzheimer's Research.

Alzheimer's Disease is attacking people at a much younger age than in the past, so let's continue to give generously to this worthy cause with the hope that a cure will be found 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 wish to mail your check, the address is: Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., 17th Floor, Chicago, IL. 60601-7633.

100% of all contributed funds go to research and are tax deductible.

See you in Columbia in April. Bring your checkbooks.

Federal Employee Education & Assistance (FEEA) Fund Chair, Margaret Baptiste
margaretbaptiste@comcast.net

After the April 19,1995, Oklahoma City bombing of the Murrah Federal Building, NARFE joined with FEEA to start a fund to help NARFE members when faced with disasters such as tornadoes, hurricanes, ice storms and forest fires. Many NARFE members have been helped over the years.

NARFE and FEEA also started a Scholarship fund and currently 60 \$1,000.00 scholarships are awarded each year to the children and grandchildren of members. The application for 2015 will appear in the February issue of our *narfe* magazine. Student applicants must provide their grades, a letter of recommendation, a list of their volunteer achievements and also write an essay on a subject relating to the Federal government or workforce. The specific subject will be announced with the application. It has been my privilege, for the last 4 years, as the SC FEEA coordinator to help judge these applications and I am always impressed by the level of maturity of the applicants.

Please consider making a personal donation to the FEEA funds. FEEA is dependent on membership support. Please encourage your chapter members to contribute because every little bit helps.

Donations should be made out to NARFE-FEEA and mailed to me, Margaret Baptiste, at 1593 Cambridge Lakes Drive in Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464. I keep a record of every chapter's contribution for my year end report which I'll make at the April convention in Columbia. I hope to see you there.

Any contributions you make are immediately forwarded to FEEA Headquarters so the money can be put to good use. Remember, your contributions will help either a student further their education or support a federal employee affected by a natural disaster.

Membership Chair, Clara Gillentine
gillentinec803@aol.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO SUMMERVILLE CHAPTER 1082- THE TOP RECRUITING SC CHAPTER FOR 2014, FOR ENROLLING 6 NEW MEMBERS!

Chapters 934 (Aiken) and 121 (Greenville) recruited 5 new members each, followed by Chapters 1013 (Charleston), 87 (Columbia), 2258 (Hilton Head), and 1786 (Sumter), who recruited 4 new members each. New members for the state during 2014 totaled 46.

Even though these numbers might seem small, we all know how difficult it is to recruit a new member. We know also that some chapters have more opportunities than others depending upon location. NARFE's National President, Richard Thissen, states in a recent article that "there was a very noticeable increase in recruitment by members' during the recent membership drive."

Keep up the good work.



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 (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 _____

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association
 South Carolina Federation
 Columbia, SC CHAPTER #87
 104 Parkview Court
 Lexington, SC 29072

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NARFE
 WWW.SC NARFE.ORG

TIME SENSITIVE

Proposed 2015 SC Federation Slate of Officers: In November, Federation President, Kathryn Hensley, appointed past Federation presidents to serve on the 2015 Nominating Committee. Margaret Baptiste, North Charleston 72, Bill Nicol, Hilton Head 2258, John Geiger, Aiken 934, and I, Jeanette Keepers, Spartanburg 560, as the Committee Chair, worked diligently to find dedicated and willing NARFE members to fill President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer positions. We are pleased to propose the following slate of officers. Thanks to the candidates for their willingness to serve to further NARFE's mission to support active and retired federal employees!

President - Gail Peapples, Summerville 1082	Secretary - Patricia Whitely, Summerville 1082
Vice President - Morgan Hill, Newberry 772	Treasurer - Kathryn Hensley, Columbia 87

SOUTH CAROLINA NARFE FEDERATION – 2014 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Position	Name	Chapter	Email	Phone
PRESIDENT	KATHRYN HENSLEY	COLUMBIA	kathrynhensley@hotmail.com	803-957-7750
VICE PRESIDENT	MORGAN HILL	NEWBERRY	hillmorjoy@cs.com	803-364-3806/8138
SECRETARY	PATRICIA WHITELY	SUMMERVILLE	pwhitely@sc.rr.com	
TREASURER	JOE McCARTY	GREENVILLE	joemccarty@charter.net	
PAST PRESIDENT	BILL NICOL	HILTON HEAD	pennst63@aol.com	
District # 1 -- Gail Peapples , gpeapples@sc.rr.com N. Charleston 72, Charleston 1013, Summerville 1082		DISTRICT # 2 -- ERNEST WILLIAMS , ejohnwjr@earthlink.net Columbia 87, Aiken 934, Orangeburg 1170		
DISTRICT # 3 -- ROBBIE ANN WHITE , robbieannwhite@yahoo.com Anderson 825, Greenwood 920, Clemson 1079		DISTRICT # 4 -- JEANETTE KEEPERS , jnettie67@hotmail.com Greenville 121, Spartanburg 560		
DISTRICT # 5 -- JUDITHANNE HARE , tlhare@truvista.net Newberry 772, Rock Hill 1180, Sumter 1786, Camden 2319		DISTRICT # 6 -- LINDA KOSSOW-PAGANI , ljkkossow@aol.com Florence 960, Myrtle Beach 1015, Pawley's Island 1958		
DISTRICT # 7 -- WALTER CLARK , dscentrvl@aol.com Beaufort 1021, Walterboro 1185, Hilton Head 2258				