



NARFE

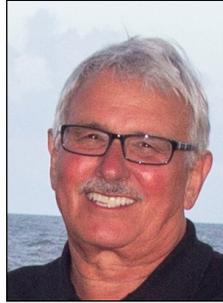
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

South Carolina NARFE Federation

*Serving Active & Retired
Federal Employees*

March 2019 Volume 56-Issue 2

**South Carolina Federation
President Robert Shear**
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Greetings South Carolina NARFE chapter and non-chapter members. I have two issues to discuss with you.

First, you'll find an article from our Region III Vice President, Clarence Robinson, in the next column over. I just received the article and wanted to get it out to you because it contains a lot of valuable information you need to know. Clarence does a superb job as our regional vice president and we're lucky to have him on our team.

Second, I'm sending you another copy of our registration form on page 3 in case you want to register to attend our upcoming federation conference scheduled for April 29-May 1, 2019 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia, SC. You received an earlier copy of the form in our January newsletter but thought it wouldn't hurt to include a copy in this newsletter. **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. 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 on April 29, 2019, for some great training and team building. Let me know if you have any questions or need further assistance.

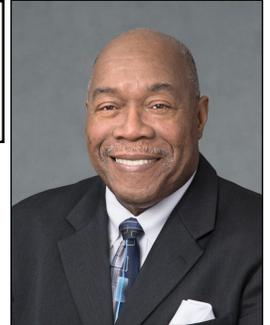
Save these dates!

**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

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



REGION 3 VICE PRESIDENT ARTICLE WINTER 2019

By the time you read this article, I hope that **'spring has sprung'** and daylight saving time is in effect. Your National Executive Board (NEB) has hit the ground running and has put plans in place for a successful 2019. We have four new Regional Vice Presidents. Newly elected National President Ken Thomas and National Secretary Kathy Hensley were elected in 2018 and assumed their new positions on November 1, 2018. Everyone is looking forward to 2019 being a banner year and working together as a **"TEAM"**.

We are currently working to complete the updates on the NARFE manuals, handbooks, and forms. **Some officers and members have received the 'Revised' federation and chapter bylaws template. I am asking all chapters and federations in Region 3 to revisit and update their bylaws. The contact numbers are listed on the bylaws documents. Please feel free to contact the federation if additional guidance is needed. It is imperative that the bylaws are updated in a timely manner since we might have additional changes at the National Conference in 2020. Bringing your bylaws up to date now will make your future changes less time consuming. Don't wait until the last minute.***

Please order the up to date materials from NARFE headquarters. I would like for all chapters and federations to have the most current materials at chapter meetings and when meeting with prospective members and organizations. The Chapter Development Manual has also been updated. The ordering list will tell you what forms are available and what forms and booklets are being updated. Please do not order excessive amounts of the updated forms. **Please destroy all out of date forms and manuals.**

(Continued at the top of page 2)

***Red emphasis added by the editor.**

(Clarence Robinson's article continued from page 1)

You will hear a lot in 2019 about **dues revenue** (Membership dues) and **non-dues revenue** (Ads, sponsorships, mailings, note cards, calendars, etc.). I have received a lot of feedback from members concerning the mailings to them and their dislike in receiving the different mailings. Due to the loss of an average of 7,000 members a year for quite a few years, we have to generate revenue to offset the membership loss until we can reverse the loss of members while increasing our non-dues revenue. If we discontinue the mailings and fail to increase the non-dues revenue, we will be forced to refocus our efforts and possibly eliminate some important and crucial programs. I am asking for your donations to and support for the calendar, card, and notepad programs through 2019. **All of us giving a little are much better than a few giving a lot.**

Another ongoing issue in the federations and chapters is the failure of our members to step up and serve as officers in NARFE. This is a critical problem. I stated when I was elected as your Region 3 Vice President that I would not vote to close any chapters in Region 3. However, my hands are tied if we have a situation where a chapter or federation notifies me that no one is interested in being an officer in the chapter or federation or they are no longer holding meetings. Please step up and keep our chapters and federations active and involved in NARFE matters. Our rights and benefits are at stake more now than they have been in the past. We can't give up.

As an organization, we have challenges. We will be successful because of our talented membership base and your involvement at different levels of NARFE. Thanks for what you do. It is appreciated.

We have seven South Carolina federation members attending **LEGcon19 March 10-13, 2019** — John Geiger, Bill Greenhill, Deborah Riley, Olivia and Ernest Williams, and Linda and William Toney. We'll get a detailed report on their visit at the 2019 conference in April.

Update Chapter F-7 Reports

We are well into the new year and some chapters have not updated their officer rosters.

Even if you think nothing has changed, a review is still required so please take the time now to review your Chapter F-7 report on officer and chapter information.

Go to www.narfe.org and log in at the top of the screen using your last name and member ID. Then click on the OAM module. There is an on-line OAM tutorial on the NARFE website if you need additional help.

New Officer Candidates for 2019-2020

(VOTING IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY — IF YOU HAVEN'T VOTED YET, GO TO SCNARFE.ORG FOR A BALLOT OR USE THE BALLOT THAT WAS INCLUDED WITH YOUR LAST FEDERATION NEWSLETTER. VOTING CONCLUDES ON MARCH 29, 2019.)

Position	Name	Chapter
PRESIDENT	BLAINE LOTZ	HILTON HEAD/ BLUFFTON
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT	ERNEST WILLIAMS	COLUMBIA
SECRETARY	KEVIN TOEVS	ROCK HILL
TREASURER	BETTY HAWKINS	COLUMBIA

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	Deborah Riley
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		



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 _____



WWW.SC NARFE.ORG



WWW.NARFE.ORG



NARFE BRANDING

Reprinted here with the approval of the author, Lynn Harper, Georgia Federation President

One of the areas that current NARFE National President Ken Thomas talked about a great deal during his campaign was the need for NARFE to “rebrand” itself and the need for a new logo since the current one has been used since 1947. NARFE has been in existence for 98 years and many factors have contributed to NARFE’s longevity and resilience. Even though marketing methods and approaches have evolved over the years, what has not changed is NARFE’s commitment to be the go-to, one-stop resource, and leading authority on federal benefits.

But, NARFE is not content to rest solely on its past successes. As new marketing technologies and tools emerge, NARFE will exploit them to meet ongoing marketing challenges. And guess what is at the forefront – Branding? NARFE is moving forward with its “branding” initiative. They have contracted with TGD
(Continued at the top of the next column)

(Continued from Lynn Harper’s article in the previous column)

Communications who is working closely with NARFE HQ staff on the branding initiative. A presentation was recently made to the NEB and later shared with some Federation Presidents

who were requested to share with 8-10 Federation members. I was one of the Federation presidents that viewed the video presentation and shared it with 8 members of the GA Federation for comments.

It’s a step in the right direction, with no decisions having been made yet. NARFE’s got to reach out to “millennials.” TGD has submitted a couple of proposed logos and taglines which certainly mean that NARFE’s logo will be more appealing to “millennials.” The biggest “toad in the road” is the need to get retiree out of NARFE’s name. Far too many people think that NARFE is a group of active retirees. They seem to only focus on the word “retiree” in the name. Progress is being made and watch for future updates on the Branding Initiative.

NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Applications Now Available (for a limited time only)

The 2019 NARFE-FEEA Scholarship application is now available online. Ten scholarships of \$700 each are available to children, stepchildren, grandchildren, step-grandchildren, great-grandchildren or step-great-grandchildren of any NARFE member in good standing. The deadline for all applications is March 25. Applicants must be high school seniors planning to attend their first year of a two- or four-year degree program at an accredited college as a full-time student in the fall/winter 2019. To fill out an application or for more information, [click here](#). Winners will be announced in fall 2019 and published in the December 2019 NARFE magazine.

File Chapter IRS Form 990-N for 2018

All chapters must file a Form 990-N epostcard electronically if you had gross receipts of \$50,000 or less. The Form 990-N is only available online at www.IRS.gov.

If your chapter’s fiscal year ended on December 31, 2018, the filing deadline is May 15, 2019. If your fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, your filing deadline was November 15, 2018.

Our goal is to have 100% compliance by May 15, 2019. Failure to file for three consecutive years will result in the loss of your chapter’s tax exempt status.

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	gillentinelc803@aol.com	803-796-3106
TREASURER	BETTY HAWKINS	COLUMBIA	blhawkins@mindspring.com	803-438-6829