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Issue 1
May - July 2020

SC NARFE
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South Carolina NARFE News

The Official Publication of the South Carolina National Active and Retired Federal Employees

Message from the President



BLAINE LOTZ
SC Federation President

Greetings to all SC NARFE Federation Chapter and National Members,

It is my hope and prayer that when you receive this newsletter the COVID-19 pandemic will be on the wane. Meanwhile, however, it and its threat have taken over our lives.

Hopefully you are all well and have been spared the pandemic's wrath.

In another article in this newsletter you will learn about our postponement of our planned SC NARFE Federation conference which was originally scheduled for the end of April 2020. We have rescheduled it for next year, April 19, 20, and 21, 2021. Our conference planning committee has worked hard and will continue to do so in order to produce a first-rate program that will be of benefit to you all.

SC NARFE continues to play an integral role in advocating for you --- our active and retired federal workers. Ernest Williams, our retiring Federation Executive Vice President, and I instituted our listening tour

My special thanks go to outgoing Executive Vice President Ernest Williams for his partnership in leading our federation this past year.

of local chapters. We attended and participated in chapter meetings to learn from you how SC NARFE can better serve you. We have just touched a few of our chapters and have many more to add to our listening tour. Let me know when it is convenient, and I will find a mutually agreeable time to join you.

We have likewise encouraged chapters and members to participate in media events where you can anecdotally share your work experiences so that our local communities can learn more about the federal worker life experience. Many citizens only hear negative stories about federal workers and the bureaucracy. Through sharing your stories, we can reverse these negative mindsets that folks have and let them know the truth about our career federal employees. In another part of this newsletter you will find an article about historical facts of the Civil Service in the US. A version of it was originally published in the Hilton Head Island Packet and Beaufort Gazette.

Some late breaking bipartisan congressional legislation was enacted and signed by the president in late 2019. We will be advocating for more such action this year. I established a committee within SC NARFE to examine the possibilities of urging the SC governor and legislature to enact legislation which would exempt federal retirement pay from state tax for SC residents. Military retirees in South Carolina have received such attention and now it's time for federal retirees, too.

Heartiest congratulations to Margaret Baptiste, this year's Judy Kemp Award recipient. Margaret is a former SC NARFE leader and former National NARFE President. Details on her service are included in an article in this newsletter.

My special thanks go to outgoing Executive Vice President Ernest Williams for his partnership in leading our federation this past year. Ernest and his wife, Olivia, are special friends and colleagues. After many years of service to NARFE, Ernest chose not to seek reelection to state office. In another article in this newsletter, my wife, Lynne, has written a tribute to Olivia and Ernest as a couple who has

contributed so much to the betterment of our organization. After reading that article I know you will want to say thanks to both Williams when next you see them.

Our newly elected federation officers are announced in another article in this newsletter. They have been virtually installed by RVP Clarence Robinson. I assure you we will all do our very best in representing you and your interests in the coming year.

Please stay well and safe.

Region III Update

I hope this update finds all Region 3 members (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, and the Virgin Islands) doing as well as can be expected under the circumstances that we find ourselves in due to the Coronavirus Pandemic that has affected the world and now the United States.



CLARENCE ROBINSON
Region 3 Vice President

navirus

- Cancel NARFE meetings and conferences
- Suffer huge losses in the stock market, retirement accounts, and the Thrift Savings Plan

I could go on and on. However, I think you understand what I am trying to say. Please continue to shelter in place and follow the guidelines as they are given to you. Please take this virus seriously and don't jeopardize your health and well-being or that of your family and friends. We will get through this together and will become a stronger nation after this pandemic is brought under control.

NARFE will also go through changes as we move forward. In addition, life as we know it will also change. We will have to be the 'change agents' to ensure that NARFE celebrates 100 years in 2021 and thrives for another century.

Please don't forget to vote on the upcoming 'proposed changes' to the NARFE Bylaws. The bylaws information will be published in the July 2020 edition of the NARFE magazine and the ballot will appear in the August 2020 edition of the NARFE magazine. The deadline for voting is August 31, 2020 at 11:59 PM Eastern Time.

Be safe and take care of yourselves and your families. You are our most important asset.

I have preached in the past that 'CHANGE' was in our future and that we would have to adjust to changes in NARFE and decide what type of NARFE we wanted. Little did I know that outside forces (COVID - 19) would not only change our way of life but would close and modify those things that we felt would never change.

Who would have thought that we would:

- Not be able to attend church
- Wear masks and gloves when we go out in public
- Close schools for an indefinite period
- Close businesses or limit purchases to take out for certain businesses
- Maintain six feet distance between you and other people
- Not be able to find items that we took for granted like toilet paper and bottled water
- Have a virus that we do not have a vaccine for or understand why people are dying from it
- Lay off workers through no fault of their own
- Close NARFE Headquarters due to the Coro-

More inside...

State Officers / Chapter Presidents pages 2- 3
A Weakened Gov't Could Weaken the U.S..... page 6
Service Officer Report page 7
Alzheimer's Report pages 9-11

Chapter News pages 11-20
Candidates for Nat'l Secretary / Treasurer pages 21-22
NARFE Membership Application page 23
Chapter Meeting Information page 24



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GUIDELINES FOR PUBLICATION

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: You will receive the *South Carolina NARFE News* at the address on your current *NARFE* magazine from National Headquarters. If you change your address, please notify Member Records toll-free at 1-800-456-8410, send an email message to memsrves@narfe.org, or mail the notification to NARFE National Headquarters, 606 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, Attention: Member Records. Neither the editor of this publication, nor the South Carolina Federation of Chapters, nor the publisher can handle such requests.

Contributor's Instructions: *The South Carolina NARFE News*, The Official Publication of the South Carolina National Active and Retired Federal Employees will be in print every third month (quarterly.) To ensure a quality product we need help and support from you, the members. Material may be edited for grammar, clarity and length. Because of the volume, they will not be acknowledged. Please use the following instructions as a guide for your article submissions. If you have questions please feel free to contact the Editor.

It is incumbent on all federation officers to submit appropriate articles and pictures of events occurring in their area of responsibility. Chapter officers and members are encouraged to submit brief articles and pictures of general interest about Chapter happenings.

Please identify the event and the individuals in the picture and mark the Chapter number on the back of each photo. Photos cannot be returned, so you should not send originals. Articles related to legislative matters and recruiting techniques are especially encouraged. All materials should be submitted to the Editor, Bob Shear, 309 Mallet Hill Rd, Columbia, SC 29223, or robertshear.narfe87@hotmail.com. You are encouraged to use email as much as possible to submit your articles. Articles should be submitted in MS WORD or WORKS (either by mail or email attachment) to the Editor. If you cannot submit in Word or Works, copy and paste the article in the text of an email. Typed, single-spaced material is also acceptable. In order to meet the publisher's deadline, the editor must receive material no later than the date published in the Editor's box on the next page.

Privacy: The Federation respects your privacy and will do everything to protect it in the *South Carolina NARFE News*. The Federation Executive Board has adopted a policy to only print individual names and phone numbers, but not mail or email address (except the Federation Executive Board). Contributors should be aware and comply with this policy when submitting your articles.

Federal Income Tax: Dues payments and gifts or contributions to NARFE are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Membership dues include subscription to this newspaper.

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The South Carolina NARFE News

2020 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Articles must be submitted by email to the editor by: **July 10** for the **August 2020** issue.



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- Social Security: 1-800-772-1213 • www.ssa.gov
- NARFE Members Records (Email or Address Change): 1-800-456-8410 • memberrecords@narfe.org
- National Headquarters NARFE Service Officers: 1-800-456-8410
- NARFE Legislative Hotline: 1-877-217-8234
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Get ready for a lively two-and-a-half days of thought-provoking speakers, leadership training, intensive education on federal benefits and opportunities to connect with fellow NARFE members and federal colleagues.

Registration Now Open

What to Expect

FEDcon20 will offer several inspirational keynote speakers as well as 20 breakout sessions specifically fo-

cused on federal benefits, legislative issues, membership recruitment, chapter and leadership development and technology. There are numerous opportunities for federation and chapter leaders to meet and share best practices. The program dedicates sessions for chapter officers to expand their leadership skills and come away with practical knowledge to share with members of your chapter.

NARFE experts will deliver:

Best-practices and leadership development to enhance the federal community's contribution at the local level. Practical, easy-to-understand knowledge to ensure that you capitalize on your federal benefits and leave nothing on the table at retirement and beyond.

A close inspection of legislation and policies threatening the security of current and retired feds...and what you can do.

- Who Should Attend?**
- Designed to appeal to NARFE leaders, members, and non-members alike, NARFE's FEDcon20 is for:
 - All Feds who want to maximize the value of their benefits and future annuity
 - ALL NARFE members ready to fully benefit from their membership
 - Any NARFE leaders engaged in chapter and leadership development
 - Members of the federal community, NARFE leaders and novices alike, who want to influence policy and take action to protect and enhance their earned benefits
 - Feds who want to safeguard their financial future and avoid post-retirement financial pitfalls

New schedule for SC NARFE Federation Conference

BLAINE LOTZ
SC Federation President



Our 56th Annual South Carolina NARFE Federation Conference is back on schedule for April 19, 20, and 21, 2021. Most of you know that the conference, originally set for April of this year, was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Summer and Fall dates were discussed as alternatives, but finally scrapped in favor of the new dates in Spring 2021. We want all of you to attend and participate in the conference -- chapter and national members of SC NARFE. The brand-new Hilton

Garden Inn in Summerville is our conference venue. It is located in a lively mix of offices, restaurants, shops, and open-air plazas. Jason Russo and all the Hilton folks have been great in accommodating us and our necessary changes in dates. As our conference approaches, we will have more information on conference and hotel registration. Stay tuned. It's going to be a wonderful event that you will not want to miss.

Pat Whitely and her Conference Planning Committee (Bob Shear, Ernest Williams, Joe Kohut, and Bill Greenhill) have been working diligently to design an exciting, entertaining and most of all informative conference. Both of the Low Country Chapters 72 and 1082 (Summerville and Charleston) will be hosting the conference. The joint committee has been busy since January working out all

the behind-the-scenes details surrounding the conference to include speakers, training topics and other logistics to bring you up to date with what's going with NARFE.

We have speaker confirmations from the Red Cross, AARP, and the Mayor of Summerville who will welcome us. Our own Kathryn Hensley, National NARFE Secretary Treasurer, has been confirmed as our speaker from NARFE Headquarters. The color guard from the Veterans Group at Del Webb Community will present the colors and the "Just Good Enough" singers are confirmed as entertainment for the President's reception. With nearly a year more of planning, we are sure to have expanded activities which will be meaningful and exciting for you. So, mark your calendars and plan to join us from April 19-21 in 2021.

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2020 FEDERATION OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

George Blaine Lotz wins re-election for second term for Federation President; Patricia Whitely wins election for Executive Vice President. Also re-elected to second terms were Kevin Toeys for Secretary and Betty Hawkins for Treasurer. A total of 233 votes were cast (of which 23 were via email); five votes were not counted due to incomplete or incorrect membership ID numbers. The federation's 2020-2021 officers are listed below:

OFFICE	CANDIDATES	# VOTES RECEIVED
President	George Blaine Lotz	226
Executive Vice President	Patricia Whitely	227
Secretary	Kevin Toeys	227
Treasurer	Betty Hawkins	227

Congratulation to the winners and thanks for your dedicated and committed service to over 2,300 NARFE members living in South Carolina.

Ernest Williams
2020-2021 Election Manager

Executive Vice President's Message

PATRICIA WHITELEY
Newly Elected Executive VP



First, thanks to everyone who took a few extra minutes during this crazy time we are all living through to cast your ballot and vote for me as your Federation Executive Vice President for the upcoming year. I appreciate the many words of encouragement I have received during the past few months that helped me decide to take on this new leadership role. I hope to make you proud as I carry on the fine tradition of those who have gone before me in this same position.

This month we celebrate Public Service Recognition Week from May 3-9. This year like no other year, we should all be very proud of all our federal employees and the great contributions all federal workers make to this

country selflessly to keep it running so smoothly. Especially this year with the COVID-19 virus, we are hearing every single day on TV and all over social media all about the employees of the various federal agencies and what they are doing to work to combat the invisible enemy that we are fighting. So many agencies are mentioned daily on the news that I'm sure most Americans either take for granted or perhaps didn't even know existed or knew what they do for us.

Most federal workers are still working many putting themselves in harm's way performing their daily duties and responsibilities carrying out the government's business. There are postal workers delivering our mail, VA doctors and nurses and other health professionals caring for our veterans, FEMA and Army Corps of Engineers working around the clock to respond in various urgent needed ways responding to the COVID-19 crisis. FCC is watching for scams all the time and now looking for new ones relating to COVID-19. Of course, CDC and

Health and Human Services and so many other agencies that don't normally get much mention in the news are now getting a lot of praise from all news media outlets for the tireless work of their employees. These employees are all our peers, perhaps they are people that you may know or worked with in the past.

If you have not yet read your April NARFE magazine, check out page 52 which talks about the festivities for Public Service Recognition Week. Unfortunately, those festivities have been postponed until next May. One of the events was a 5K/1M run/walk. Check out the FEEA website at www.feea.org. Perhaps next May the federation and all our chapters can participate in some virtual walks to raise funds for FEEA. So, mark your calendars for May 2, 2021, put on those walking shoes and support FEEA's disaster relief, emergency hardship loans and scholarship programs. You have a whole year to form your chapter's teams. And, did I mention you get a t-shirt? Of course, you do!!

Membership Report

CLARA GILLENLINE
Membership Chair



As of this writing many of us are enduring self-imposed confinement in our homes in an effort to avoid the coronavirus. We applaud the healthcare workers who are placing their lives on the line to save others. Nevertheless, as this coronavirus pandemic wreaks havoc across our state, leadership will carry on as best we can.

We are all aware that the OAM Monthly Chapter Activity Report (M112) has ceased to exist as of May 31, 2019; however, you can still access the January -May 2019 M12 report by choosing the Chapter Dashboard selection and

then the ORM option button on your chapter section of the NARFE website. The long awaited AMS Monthly Chapter Activity Report is still under development. Until that report is available, there is no easy way to track members unless you are familiar enough with your membership roster (i.e. smaller chapters) to detect new members or dropped members.

Of course, membership outreach recruiting is at a standstill due to social distancing but will resume after the demise of COVID-19. Before the coronavirus outbreak, we supplied NARFE magazines to the VA Hospital and VA Outreach Clinics across the state in an effort to make federal VA workers aware of NARFE and what we have to offer.

We also sent magazines to US postal workers and want

them to know that NARFE supports postal reform efforts aimed at improving the financial situation of the United States Postal Service (USPS) so it is able to provide universal, public service for the American people.

For your information there are several forms that were revised during 2019, as well as some new manuals, such as: FH-11 Community Relations Guide and FH-15 Chapter Development Manual. The Chapter and Federation Officers Manual is still under revision.

Again, I remind you that dues withholding is a dues payment method available to have your annual NARFE membership dues deducted from your annuity each month. This will save you money, in addition to giving you one less thing to worry about during this crisis. To learn more about dues withholding, call 1-800-456-8410.

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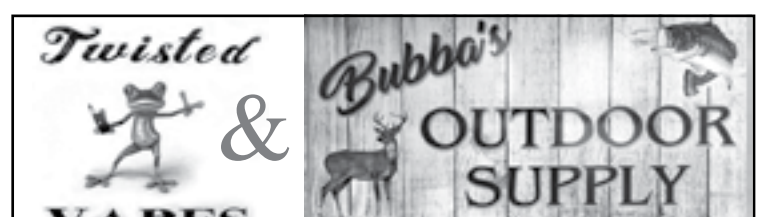
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Financial Report

BETTY HAWKINS
SC Federation Treasurer

This is the annual report for the federation. Our fiscal year ended on March 31. Due to the short timeframe before publication of this newsletter, records have not yet been audited.



Checking Account:

Beginning balance 4-1-2019	\$17,625.51
Revenue.....	\$7,754.87
Expenses	\$9,509.51
Ending balance 3-31-2020	\$15,870.77

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A weakened government could weaken the U.S.

by A. Lee Fritschler and Blaine Lotz

For several decades leading US politicians of both parties have sought office, in part, by casting doubts and defamations on the government they aspire to lead. No matter what party, no matter what level of government, the insults pour out. Bureaucrats, they say, stand in the way of progress and if we had less government at all levels we would be better off as a nation.

The message has been received. Pew Research polls show that support of government in the US has declined dramatically over the past fifty years, from well over half thinking government did good things, to today well under half retaining that view. Most US citizens today think government is an obstacle to progress. It stands in the way.

Let's look at government and the federal worker and their role in the US economy from our founding onward which we as a society often take for granted. That role is far from negative. The Postal Service, e-mail and the internet, NASA, medical research, government regulations, and patents are just a few examples we will discuss.

Take the venerable old Postal Service. It played and still does a central role in our economy beyond mail delivery. It was founded in the colonial period and is the only agency noted in the Constitution. It delivered the mail which was then the only means of communication and it also helped big time in developing the economy. For example, it built roads for its purposes but opened them to the public. Some of these roads still are known by their early names, for example, the Boston Post Road. The Service bought some of the earliest flying machines, helping that industry get off the ground. It further assisted by training the first pilots. Charles Lindbergh was one of them.

The Postal Service started the Weather Service. It constructed the first airports; one of them was on today's Washington Monument grounds. It gave a boost to the airline industry by paying for space on commercial flights,

whether or not it needed such purchased space each day. (That ended only a few years ago.) The Postal Service uses commercial air services each and many times a day. It pays for that service. It is a heavy user of airmail, but it has never owned an airplane. In the early days it played an important role in developing a modern economy. Even today, the USPS and its postal workers are unfairly treated in the public forum.

The government and the postal service and private enterprise growth went hand in hand. It was and is a model of industrial growth in the US, which is being followed in other sectors today, i.e., government funded development followed by a turnover to the private sector. The Postal Service developed and maintains the Zip Code system and makes it available for a low fee to any user. Where would UPS and Fed Ex be today without it? Is there any other outfit around which could develop and keep current such a complex system? Probably not.

We see this as a model of development: government initiation and private follow-up and continuation. The internet and email were inventions in the Department of the Army (DARPA). The technology was invented and first built in government, then given out to commercial enterprise for profit and further development. The GPS systems we have on our phones and in our automobiles and used by delivery, taxis and other private enterprises was a government developed technology turned over to the private sector.

NASA developed much new technology which found its way into commercial sectors. Everything from Teflon pans to the building of private launch vehicles. There are several rocket launch companies in the private sector now. Soon some of them will carry passengers into space. Space travel was born in government, in NASA. Space travel is just now at the beginning of its private sector life. Government is a huge contributor to medical research, the largest in the nation through the various National Institutes of Health. The Centers for Disease Control are major players in safe-guarding public health. Public health

data bases used often by the health care industry are maintained there.

Regulations are the prime motivating juice of those who despise the deep state. But where would we be without them? Would the public deposit money in bank accounts without a government guarantee of that deposit? Would the public invest in mutual funds if government did not have oversight of those companies? Those who look forward to cleaner air and water rely on government for leadership. We might over-regulate in some areas and do it not so well in others, but reform is the key, not abolishment. What would we use for currency; bit coins run by a private system of computers with virtually no transparency?

Even more fundamental than modern regulation, could we have private ownership of property, including the sale of it, if governments did not keep land records and record each sale as it occurs over the decades and centuries? How could property be developed or sold without those records and enforcement of ownership rights? What would happen to investment in inventions if there were no Patent Office?

So far we have only scratched the surface by looking at a few of government's activities in support of industrial development. There are certainly other areas. This survey of government functions is far from complete. And, it is the skilled and dedicated federal worker who keeps all of these systems flowing and working. Often underpaid and underappreciated. Hopefully this is enough to convince some skeptics that we need government, always striving for better government, of course, but government, nevertheless. Those dismissive of that thought should be careful we do not get what they hope for.

A. Lee Fritschler is a retired college president and former US Assistant Secretary of Education under President Carter. Blaine Lotz is a retired civil servant in the Senior Executive Service and the current SC federation president of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees.

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South Carolina Website Report

PAUL D. DONAHUE
SC Federation Web Coordinator



In July 2020, the South Carolina NARFE Federation and its affiliated Chapters will continue to enjoy their seventeenth (17th) year of website existence on the internet. Much has transpired over this period of time as these many websites have undergone several transitional facelifts, attempting to keep up with social trending. Originally the SC Federation consisted of 22 Chapters, however due to annual attrition they have dwindled down to 13 as chapters consolidated their membership. When initially configured the websites were likely considered foreign to use by many federal retirees who had never experienced computer technology during their career. Ironically with the introduction of smart-phone and tablet use over the years, such avoidance has diminished, as most everybody today browses the internet - be it for shopping, on-line news reports or simply keeping in touch with family members. Consider also that new generation of technologically attuned members have emerged from within the govern-

ment workforce.

The primary design concept of the various websites was to inform potential members, from active and retired federal employees, of the significant value of NARFE, while also directing them to specific geographical locations throughout the state in which they could join the organization. Information such as chapter meeting dates, together with location and the names of officers and various committee members were considered paramount in its overall design. Ultimately it would be an opportunity for anyone interested in NARFE membership to make personal contact via email.

For the uninitiated the SC Federation's website is www.scnarfe.org, while access to any chapter is available from that home page via a link. Or simply use the URL address: www.XXXX.scnarfe.org wherein you substitute your chapter number for the XXXX's.

Because of the structure of NARFE, personnel organizational changes each year required each website to be groomed in order to reflect the new officers in charge, plus any other changes affecting that chapter. Maintaining each individual website became a chore, exacerbated by the

fact that not every chapter notified NARFE headquarters of any changes. Consequently, those chapters exhibited stale data on their website, which is not acceptable by NARFE.

Over the years I have routinely appealed to each chapter into considering one of their members with some semblance of basic website design technology to become the chapter webmaster. Fortunately, a couple of chapters have been successful in this regard in maintaining their own websites. These individuals also enhance their website by posting local views and news as well as photos of recent chapter events. The amount of work involved in these efforts requires mere minutes of their time. Instructions to accomplish this are straightforward, enhanced by a menu-driven software program that is relatively simple to use. In addition, support personnel are readily available for consultation.

Anyone interested in pursuing this challenge can contact me directly from any scnarfe website. In turn I would be pleased to forward some basic information concerning any chapter website maintenance procedures for their consideration.

Service Officer Report

PATRICIA WHITELEY
Immediate Past Service Officer



In the past several months, I have assisted some NARFE members in their dealings with OPM. It has reminded me that as annuitants and retirees, we should prepare for life's events. One of life's events may render an annuitant unable to handle his or her own money or medical affairs because of a mental or physical condition. Here are a few things annuitants should be aware of in preparing for an inability to handle their own financial and/or medical affairs. Listed below are excerpts from various government publications.

Office of Personnel Management (OPM) OPM will not make payment based on a power of attorney or the existence of a joint account with the annuitant at a financial institution. OPM will only make payments to someone to handle your funds under one of the following conditions:

1. OPM will make payments to a person who has been appointed by a state court to be responsible for managing funds on behalf of the annuitant. OPM must have an original certified copy of the appointment in this situation.

2. OPM will make payments to a person approved by OPM under a "Representative Payee" process through OPM. Contact must be made with OPM for completion of the "Representative Payee" appointment approval process. OPM may be contacted at 1-888-767-6738 between the hours of 7:40 am to 5:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday and Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Veterans Administration (VA) The VA has a Fiduciary Program to protect veterans and beneficiaries who are unable to manage their VA benefits through the appointment and oversight of a fiduciary. Contact should be made with the VA concerning the Fiduciary Program by calling 1-800-827-1000 from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm Monday thru Friday.

Social Security Administration (SSA) You may appoint a qualified person to represent you when doing business with Social Security. However, to have a person receive SSA payment on your behalf, SSA must appoint a "Representative Payee" who would be authorized to use the benefits to pay current and future needs of the recipient or beneficiary. Being an authorized representative, having a power of attorney, or a joint bank account with the beneficiary will not be accepted by Social Security. Only that person who has applied to the SSA and appointed by the SSA will be authorized to negotiate and manage a beneficiary's benefits. Contact should be made with Social Security concerning appointments

for representatives and representative payees by calling 1-800-772-1213 from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

Medicare Medical Information Medicare will permit the authorization of a person or persons to assist you with Medicare-related matters such as gathering information about your insurance for research/decision making purposes, handling claims and/or payments and receiving notices, medical information and other related matters. You may complete your Authorized Representative form online at MyMedicare.gov or by calling customer service seven days a week, 24 hours a day at 1-800-633-4227.

Are you a veteran in crisis or concerned about one? Connect with the Veterans Crisis Line to reach caring, qualified VA responders. Many of them are veterans themselves. This free support is confidential, available every day, 24/7, serves all veterans, all service members, National Guard and Reserve, and their family members and friends. Connect by calling 1-800-273-8255 (Press 1), text to 838255, or chat online.

As NARFE members, we all need to stay informed of the many resources available to us either online or using the telephone if you do not have access to a computer. Knowledge is power and knowledge can keep you from being further stressed when faced with an already stressful situation.

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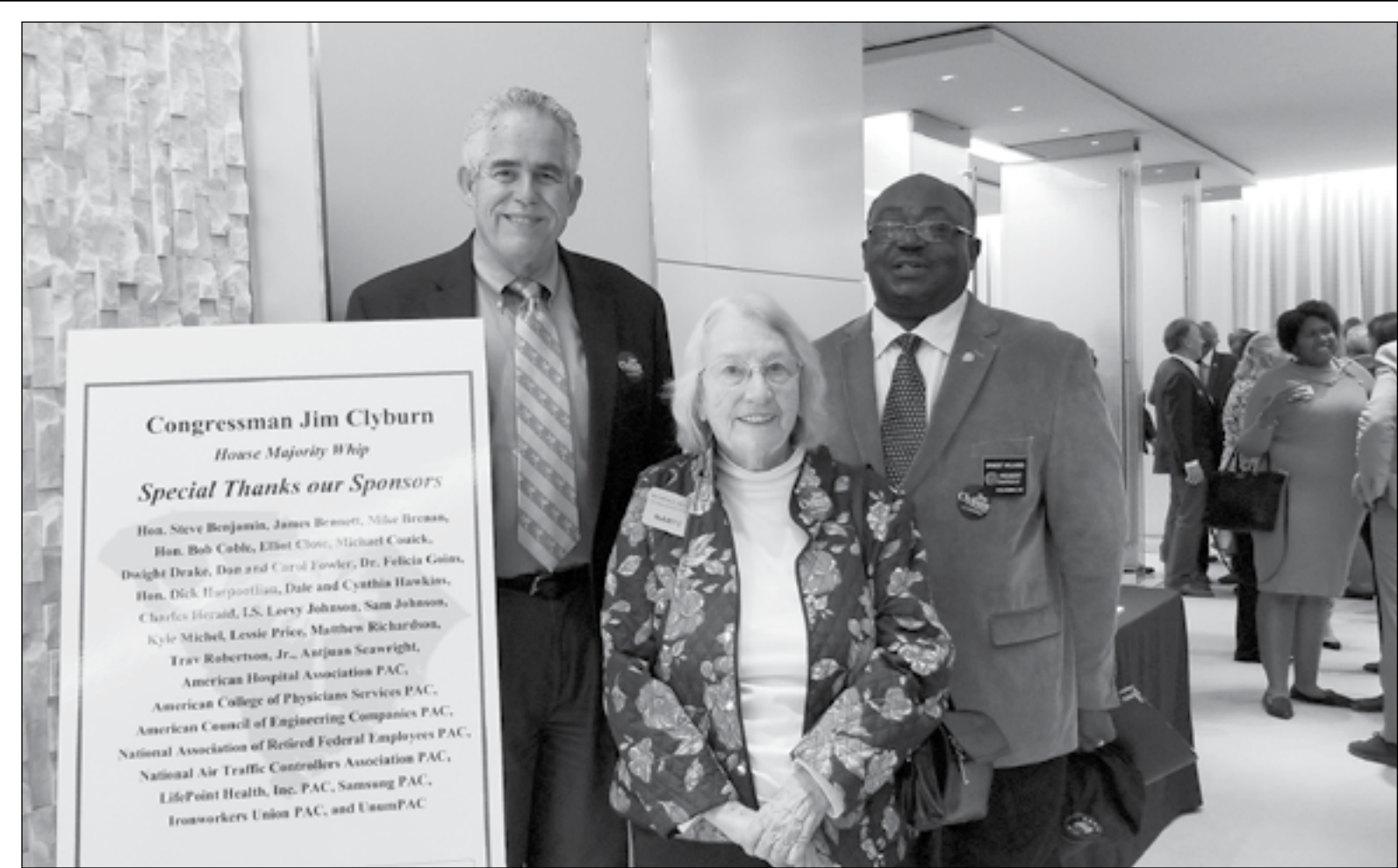
For my first official correspondence as the Federation Historian, I would like to lay-out what my objectives are going to be for the 2020 fiscal year. The duties and responsibilities of the Historian can be found in the South Carolina Federation Operating Guidelines Manual. In an abbreviated version, the duties include...1) preserve relevant records in a logical storage and filing

system, 2) preserve and maintain the minutes of the Annual Federation Conferences and Federation Executive Board meetings, 3) make all historical records available to the Federation Executive Board and all federation members, and 4) track and present certificates marking chapter anniversary dates.

One of the first challenges I find myself confronting is the large volume of historical records that have been collected and stored over the past many years. In reviewing these records and files, I see some of these documents date back to the 1960s and 1970s. One of my first efforts will be to sort through which records should be retained and which should be purged or destroyed. Additionally,

to keep all record handling and disposition transparent, I have produced a set of recommendations which are posted on our federation’s website. I encourage members to review this document which lays out future record retention and destruction guidelines. Comments and suggestions are welcome. These recommendations will be presented to the Federation Executive Board soon for an implementation vote.

I eagerly look forward to serving our federation membership and to the challenges set forth in the above objectives. I ask that no one hesitates in contacting me with any questions or comments regarding our historical records, at toevskevin@gmail.com or 443-977-9696 (cell).



Pictured left to right are **Randy Herald**, Legislative Officer for Columbia Chapter 87, **Kathy Hensley**, NARFE’s National Secretary/Treasurer, and **Ernest Williams**, at the time the South Carolina Federation Executive Vice President. They were at an event representing NARFE PAC honoring South Carolina’s 2nd District Congressman, Mr. Jim Clyburn.





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NARFE Power Couple: Olivia and Ernest Williams

by Lynne Lotz

Ernest and Olivia Williams of Columbia are definitely a NARFE power couple. Each has contributed immensely to their community as well as to the Federal government during their active employment and now in retirement.

Olivia, a licensed and ordained minister, has used her skills not only in the church community but also in many local, state and national organizations. She is a retired Field Examiner with the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs where she worked with veterans, surviving spouses and surviving helpless children of veterans assisting them in handling their VA affairs throughout South Carolina. She always reached out to help others in the community during her employment with the agency for 23 years prior to retiring in June 2010.

Her personal experience dealing with family members with mental disorders and severe dementia has given Olivia valuable insight while working diligently as the SC Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator, Region III Alzheimer's Coordinator (covering Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands, and South Carolina), and Chair, NARFE Alzheimer's National Committee. She is a community activist for veterans, surviving spouses, and the aging struggling with conditions such as loss of use of limbs,



Alzheimer's, Dementia, PTSD, Bi-Polar, Schizophrenia and various other mental conditions.

Ernest retired from Federal service with the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) on December 31, 2006,

having served 22 years with this agency. He attended his first NARFE meeting in Columbia in February 2007 and immediately began his leadership role in the organization.

Starting out as the Chapter 87 NARFE-PAC Coordinator, he has served as the District Field Officer for District 2, Chapter 87 Service Officer and President. While serving as SC Federation NARFE-PAC Coordinator, Ernest facilitated communications between Federation members and NARFE national headquarters on Congressional races and candidates within South Carolina. During his tenure as SC Federation Executive Vice President, Ernest and Olivia represented South Carolina at the Federation Presidents meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Most recently he chaired the Judy Kemp Awards Committee.

Also active in his church and community, Ernest serves as assistant coordinator of a local food pantry in Columbia. He has also been appointed by Governor McMaster to a four-year term on the Foster Care Review Board in Kershaw County.

Not only are these two individuals wonderful role models to their blended family consisting of a daughter, four sons, and ten grandchildren, but also to their community and all whose lives they touch. Thank you Olivia and Ernest for your exemplary service to NARFE and your community.

Alzheimer's Report

OLIVIA WILLIAMS

Alzheimer's Chair



NARFE's fundraising national total as of February 29, 2020, is \$13,501,103.39. This includes \$802.72 raised by the states from the 2019 Longest Day and \$74,881.00 raised from the 2019 Walk to End Alzheimer's. During February, members raised \$21,845.89, down \$4,601.08 from this time in February 2019. OUR NEW national goal is \$14 Million. We have raised \$250,821.63 in the first eight months of

FY 2020 compared to \$262,889.71 in FY 2019, which is down \$12,068.08.

South Carolina chapters have raised a total of \$3,913.00 during FY 2020 from July 1, 2019 through February 29, 2020. Great Job!!! Thanks to all chapters for the Alzheimer's funds raised during this time.

I have a special request for your help. Please contact your Senators and Representatives and encourage them to support a bill currently before Congress that extends the Alzheimer's Semipostal Stamp for another six years.

SC chapters should start now registering teams for this year's Walk to End Alzheimer's. It is NOT too early

to sign up alz.org/walk. NARFE is listed with National Teams under Member. Every Chapter can register a team for a Walk near them, donate online, or send funds to the Walk address as a NARFE team with your chapter team name and chapter number.

It can be a "VIRTUAL WALK" (although it would be nice to have NARFE members actually participate at the WALKS). It is very important for team members to donate to support NARFE's Alzheimer's WALKS. The money raised COUNTS TOWARD OUR 2020 NARFE \$14 MILLION GOAL! Let's get EVERY CHAPTER AND MEMBER INVOLVED! Has your Chapter signed up yet?

(See Alzheimer's, page 10)

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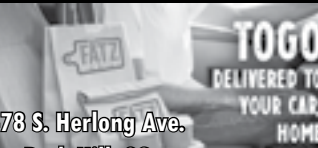
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Alzheimer's

(Continued from page 9)

The first step is to appoint a team captain who can encourage chapter members to participate and donate on-line. A registration form should be given to members to complete with their donations, especially for people who do not donate on-line. The chapter team captain should mail registration forms into the Walk Office in order to get credit for both the WALK and NARFE TEAM.

If you have questions, contact me and I will help. When registering, be sure to indicate you are with NARFE. After registering, go to alz.org/walk to ensure your team is included under the NARFE Section. We need 100%-chapter participation. According to the Alzheimer's Association, NARFE achieved a milestone over the past four years as NARFE members raised over \$300,000.00 for the Walk. GREAT JOB!

Funds raised through Walks support the full mission of the Alzheimer's Association, which includes care and support programs for communities across the country. Beginning in 2019, funds raised by NARFE through national Walk teams count toward our goal of raising \$14 million for the Alzheimer's cause by the end of 2020. Funds raised outside of the Walk will continue to fund U.S. based research. The breakdown is: 77% Alzheimer's care, support, research, awareness and advocacy; 17% fundraising and 6% administrative charges.

June is Alzheimer's Awareness month and The Longest Day is June 20, 2020. Your June chapter meeting should observe both events by collecting member donations, taking group pictures (as shown to the right), decorating your chapter meeting place or just wearing some purple.

Chapter presidents and Chapter Alzheimer's coordinators should have the necessary information concerning NARFE Alzheimer's Disease Research Program. This is on the Updated New F-12 Pamphlet (01/20) and posted on the SC Federation website. It can be ordered from national headquarters on the F-18 Form. This is available for chapter and federation members. The Chapter Alzheimer's and Federation Alzheimer's Manuals are in the process of being updated by the NARFE Alzheimer's National Committee. Hopefully, they will be available sometime in May 2020. I will let you know when they become available. Until then, please continue to use the old ones dated 09/15. They can be downloaded from narfe.org.

If you have not signed up for NARFE Alzheimer's Monthly Newsletter, I would encourage you to do this as

(See Alzheimer's, page 11)



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alzheimer's association

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OCTOBER 10
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OCTOBER 17
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OCTOBER 24
Columbia, SC

OCTOBER 31
Bluffton, SC

NOVEMBER 7
Charleston, SC
Myrtle Beach, SC

DECEMBER 31
Rock Hill, SC



At the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's, people carry flowers representing their connection to Alzheimer's — a disease that currently has no cure.

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To learn more, please contact our staff based on the Walk to End Alzheimer's location in South Carolina.

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Candace Taylor, 864-374-2684, cataylor@alz.org

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Alzheimer's

(Continued from page 10)

it has lots of current Alzheimer's disease information. Please let your Chapter Alzheimer's Coordinators and chapter members know about this as well. It is also available to anyone (including family and friends). The link is alz.org/forms/narfe. Another link to sign up for the monthly newsletter is on alz.org/narfe members. You will find monthly updates on what is transpiring and a source of hope.

Please use the Alzheimer's article in the March 2020 and December 2019 NARFE magazines to help in recruiting new members and in reminding members of the importance of giving more in order to reach our \$14 million goal. Again, let me thank all of the NARFE chapter teams that participated in the National Walk to End Alzheimer's disease and for your chapter monthly Alzheimer's donations.

Our annual federation conference scheduled for April 27, 2020, was due to the Coronavirus pandemic. However, I am looking forward to seeing all of you in April 2021 in Summerville.

Extract from the March NARFE Alzheimer's Newsletter

During the current COVID-19 crisis, the Alzheimer's Association remains dedicated to serving those impacted by Alzheimer's and other dementias. We recognize how stressful this time can be, and we want to ensure that you know that we're available 24 hours a day for those affected by Alzheimer's through our Helpline (800.272.3900). If you are caring for someone living with Alzheimer's, we've developed tips for dementia caregiving at home and in assisted living. In addition, if you're a caregiver, we have recommendations to help keep yourself healthy. For further resources, visit alz.org/NARFE.



US Congressman Joe Wilson (in the white shirt) from South Carolina's 2nd Congressional District joins Chapter 87 members (Clara Gillentine, on the far left, Olivia Williams, holding the large poster, and Ernest Williams, directly behind Olivia).

Chapter 72 Margaret L. Baptiste-Greater Charleston News

WILLIAM GREENHILL
President, Chapter 72



Editor's Note #1: When I first became active at the South Carolina NARFE Federation level, I wondered why the Greater Charleston chapter was named for a person named Margaret. I soon met Margaret Baptiste and I immediately understood why the Greater Charleston Chapter became the Margaret L. Baptiste-Greater Charleston Chapter. She's a most remarkable person and leader and we're lucky to have her in our South Carolina federation. Bill Greenhill, Margaret's chapter president, recently interviewed Margaret to

capture some of her insights into our federation's history. Bill's interview notes are shown below. It is absolutely must read.

Margaret Baptiste, a member of Chapter 72, is a unique NARFE leader. She was born in England and never worked for the federal government. She moved to the United States in 1956 and soon met and married her husband, Al, in Brooklyn, NY. In 1973, he was transferred to South Carolina where she has lived since then. She joined NARFE as the spouse of her husband who was Chief Engineer of the Military Sea Command, part of the Department of Defense. Margaret strongly advocates for spouses of federal employees and retirees to join NARFE. She says that protecting their benefits are as important for the spouse as the retiree.

When Al retired in 1978, they were both encouraged to join NARFE by a good friend who became president of the South Carolina Federation in 1980 and she appointed Margaret as federation secretary. After serving one year in that position in the early 1980's, Margaret served as secretary, vice president, and president for Chapter 72. Also, in the 1980s, Margaret was active in the community. Margaret raised her two daughters and served in numerous volunteer capacities, being elected to church council in both her Brooklyn and Charleston churches and volunteering at her Charleston church in a number of jobs. She helped found Lutheran Social Services (now Tri-County Family Ministries) and was later president. Margaret helped that organization meet the needs of the community with food, meals, and medical care for those in need.

(See Chapter 72, page 12)

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Chapter 72

(Continued from page 11)

Then in 1989 she was elected president of the NARFE South Carolina Federation. During her term she was actively advocating for federal employees and retirees in South Carolina. Most notably in Davis vs Michigan, the US Supreme Court had ruled that federal employees and retirees had to be treated the same for state income taxation as state employees. Federal employees and retirees in South Carolina were taxed at a higher rate than state employees. Margaret Baptiste led a lobbying effort that resulted in a change in state law so that state and federal employees now enjoy the same state income tax rates in South Carolina.

In 1990 and in 1992 she was appointed as vice chair of the Resolution Committee at the National Convention and in 1994 was elected national vice president for Region III and, at that time, she was the only woman on the National Executive Board. She was reelected in 1996 and after her husband's untimely death in 1997 she ran for and was elected national vice president in 1998 and was reelected in 2000. She ran for national NARFE president in 2002 and lost in a contested recount of votes. And then in 2006 she was encouraged by a number of friends to run again and was nominated from the floor and won that election. She was reelected in 2008 and served the two terms

allowed under the By-Laws. She was the only woman to have served as national president since the founding of NARFE in 1921.

During her presidency she testified often before Congressional Committees to get the NARFE name out there concerning health care and other issues important to federal employees. She attended many congressional fund raisers advocating for federal employees making the needs and interests of federal employees known to elected officials and their staffs. She is proud of her active role with NARFE raising scholarship funds for FEEA.

Since coming home to Chapter 72 and Charleston in 2010, Margaret has continued to volunteer, serving for a time as FEEA co-coordinator for the South Carolina Federation, got elected once again to the Church Council at the St Matthew's Lutheran Church and since her move to Sandpiper Independent Living has served on several committees there and has just ended her two year term as president of the Residents Council.

Editor's Note #2: After reading Bill's summary of his interview with Margaret, I think you'll understand why she was selected for the Judy Kemp Award this year.



Margaret Baptiste, this year's winner of the South Carolina Federation's Judy Kemp award. Congratulations, Margaret, and thank you for your many years of devoted and selfless service to NARFE and its members.

- | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---|
| 2011..... | Esther Crandall (deceased 2012) |Chapter #72, North Charleston |
| 2012..... | William (Bill) R. Nicol |Chapter #2258, Hilton Head-Bluffton |
| 2013..... | John W. Geiger |Chapter #934, Aiken |
| 2015..... | Kathryn E. Hensley |Chapter #87, Columbia |
| 2016..... | Robert E. Muller |Chapter #121, Greenville |
| 2017..... | Paul Donahue |Chapter #87, Columbia |
| 2018..... | Larry T. Shaff (posthumous) |Chapter #2258, Hilton Head-Bluffton |
| 2019..... | Margaret L. Baptiste |Chapter #72, Margaret L. Baptiste-Greater Charleston |

Judy Kemp Award Recipients

NARFE's on social media: Join the conversation

Are you taking advantage of all of NARFE's channels of communication? Every member of NARFE receives a copy of *narfe* magazine in the mail, of course.

But did you know that NARFE is on Facebook and Twitter? On Facebook, our username is NARFE National Headquarters. Our Twitter handle is @narfehq. Don't miss out. Like us on Facebook @narfehq and follow us on Twitter to keep informed every day.

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Notes from Chapter 87 - Columbia

WILLIAM TONEY
President, Chapter 87

We are praying for the safety and good health of Columbia Chapter 87 members as we continue to see the horrible consequences of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Our prayers are extended to those affected by this unprecedented virus attack upon the most vulnerable citizens of our State, the Nation and the world. As you know, our monthly meetings are suspended until further notice and a meeting will not be scheduled until it is safe for members to gather as a group in compliance with governmental restrictions and the existence of a safe health environment for our members.

As mostly retirees over 60 plus, NARFE members are in a high-risk group if we become infected by the coronavirus. This makes it so important that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) measures for not catching the virus be followed strictly and consistently---limiting social contact, washing our hands and seeking medical attention if experiencing the symptoms of the virus.

As retirees we are somewhat shielded from the severe financial difficulties that are being experienced by those in the general workforce. However, NARFE headquarters' staff voice was heard by lawmakers as they worked on the Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Economic Security (CARES) Act. As a result, retirees are eligible for cash payments. For many retirees, this will help manage the economic repercussions from retirement investment losses. Single



retirees with incomes up to \$75,000 will receive a non-taxable \$1,200 cash payment and couples with income up to \$150,000 will receive \$2,400. Hopefully, these payments will arrive in your account or mailbox by late April but no later than the middle of May.

With the good news to help shore up the financial impact of COVID-19, let's be aware that criminals are attempting to exploit the COVID-19 virus threat through various scams. These scams are in the form of selling fake cures for the coronavirus, phishing of email posing as the World Health Organization or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In addition, the seeking of donations fraudulently for illegitimate or non-existent charitable organizations. Also, be wary of people offering to deliver groceries to your home. If you wish to have groceries delivered, rely only on the chained stores such as Walmart, Kroger, Publix and BI-LO.

Status of Columbia Chapter 87 future meetings

Based on current information and the projected trajectory of the COVID-19 outbreak, our chapter meetings for April 10, 2020, and May 8, 2020, are hereby canceled. An assessment will be made by May 30, 2020, as to whether a June 12, 2020, meeting will be held. Members who regularly attend our Columbia Chapter 87 meeting

will be advised of the June 12, 2020, meeting plans by email and/or phone on or before June 1, 2020.

The health and safety of NARFE members are of utmost importance in holding future meeting. When a decision is made about a future monthly meeting, your contact information will enable us to survey each of you relative to your plan to attend the meeting. It is important that we alert Seawell's Restaurant of the number to expect.

Members' Information

For those of you who have attended our monthly meetings at Seawell's within the last year, please contact the president of our chapter at 803-786-1097 or by email at wtoney@sc.rr.com no later than April 30, 2020, if you have not been contacted by that date. It is important that we obtain the following information from you to help in contacting you and getting information for birthday and wedding anniversary dates. Please contact Chapter President William Toney with the following information or he will be contacting you to verify the following information: Your Name, Month and Day (Not year) of Birth, Month and Day of Wedding Anniversary, Current address, Current Home Phone and Cell Phone, and email address.

In closing, stay safe, stay in, be careful and be vigilant. Thank our healthcare workers, first responders and the number of public employees who keep this country going in an uncertain and perilous time. We will get through this and will be stronger and wiser for it.



Honoring American Heroes

Pictured on the left is Gerald White, a member of NARFE Chapter 87 in Columbia. Gerald is the seventh man standing in the middle row directly in front of South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster. Gerald and his fellow Battle of the Bulge and World War II veterans were honored recently by the governor. The ceremony honoring these great veterans was held at the South Carolina Military Museum. To the delight of visitors, the veterans remained after the ceremony to sign Battle of the Bulge posters. This photo by Phillip Jones appeared in the Columbia Star newspaper.

(See Chapter 87, page 15)

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Chapter 87

(Continued from page 14)

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Edward T. Glover

Federal Long-term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP) Rolls Out New Option

If you are actively employed or retired from federal service or are one of the qualified relatives (including spouses, parents, parents-in-law, adult children over 18 and domestic partners), you may be eligible for a new version of the FLTCIP. The new 3.0 version of FLTCIP provides many of the same features as the previous versions, such as the ability to receive care at home or in a facility, an informal caregiver benefit, 100 percent international coverage, and a "stay-at-home" benefit that helps support care at home up to 30 times your daily benefit amount (DBA).

FLTCIP 3.0 also offers a built-in premium stabilization feature designed to reduce the potential need for future premium increases. There is an adjustable amount computed

as a percentage of premiums paid that can be used to offset future premiums or provide a refund of the premium death benefit to your beneficiary or estate. Also, there is now a future purchase option (FPO)- every two years, you will be offered a benefit increase and maximum lifetime benefit increase based on the change in consumer prices. If you accept, your premium will increase as well. If you decline the increase offer three times, you will no longer be offered an increase unless you can provide evidence of your good health.

Premiums are based on the age you are when you apply, and applicants must pass medical underwriting. The huge cost of caregiving can be emotional, physical and financial. Having insurance can give you choices for how to receive the care that you may someday need.

I am your new local service officer and can be reached by phone at 803-837-0236 or by email at edwardg@windstream.net.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT

Clara Gillentine

As of this writing many of us are enduring self-imposed confinement in our homes to avoid the coronavirus. We applaud the healthcare workers who are placing their lives on the line to save others. Nevertheless, as this coronavirus pandemic wreaks havoc across our state, Chapter 87 leadership will carry on as best we can.

Chapter 87 welcomes new members during the past year and to date: Tommie Barnes, Belinda Robbins, Dona Wooding, Melinda Greene, and Rowena Rice. There may be others whose names have not yet been entered on the Chapter 87 membership roster.

Of course, membership outreach recruiting is at a standstill due to social distancing but will resume after the demise of COVID-19. Before the coronavirus outbreak, we sup-

plied NARFE magazines to the VA Hospital and VA Outreach Clinics across the state to make federal VA workers aware of NARFE and what we have to offer.

We also sent magazines to US postal workers and want them to know that NARFE supports postal reform efforts aimed at improving the financial situation of the United States Postal Service (USPS) so it can provide universal, public service for the American people.

Again, I remind you that dues withholding is a dues payment method available to have your annual NARFE membership dues deducted from your annuity each month. This will save you money, in addition to giving you one less thing to worry about during this crisis. To learn more about dues withholding, call 1-800-456-8410.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Patrice Mickens, 3rd Vice President, Programs



Unfortunately, the chapter's May 8 meeting was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our scheduled speaker was Sarah L. Clingman, a certified specialist in elder law, an area of practice encompassing estate planning and administration, special needs planning and probate court actions. We will try to reschedule Ms. Clingman for a future chapter meeting.

June 12 – Quinn Hayes, Development Manager for Harvest Hope Food Bank will discuss Harvest Hope's available services and how NARFE Chapter 87 members can help. Quinn and her family moved to South Carolina from West Palm Beach, Florida, three years ago. She has an extensive background in donor relations, events, health education, chronic disease prevention and management. She's led and been instrumental in getting policies, systems, and environmental changes adopted to help build and foster healthier communities.

July 10 – Taquina "TQ" Davis, PRISMA Health will speak about stroke awareness and prevention.

August 14 – Legislative Awareness Month

September 11 – Dr. Linda Bell, MD, Department of Health and Environmental Control/State Epidemiologist will discuss COVID-19 and disease prevention and control. Dr. Bell has a BS in Molecular Biology from the University of Texas at Austin and earned her Medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas. Dr. Bell trained in internal medicine and completed an appointment as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Office with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Bell has worked in public health practice for the past 20 years focusing on the control of communicable diseases. She has served in several positions with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control including Medical Consultant, Director of the Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology and Director of Clinical Services. Dr. Bell is currently the South Carolina State Epidemiologist.



Chapter 87 Remembers

Chapter 87 extends sympathy to the families and friends of our deceased chapter members:

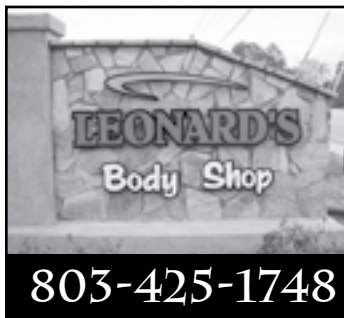
William McCurdy; Flornell Gann; John Canty; Jack D. Means; Junita Reynolds; Ernest Smith; James D. Williams

Health and Happiness Report

Sent 17 birthday cards, one get well card and two sympathy cards.

Text Beryle Rice Browman at 803-260-0487 to report member wellness information.

(See Chapter 87, page 16)



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Chapter 87

(Continued from page 15)

NARFE-PAC Chair Report

BERNIE . WRIGHT
NARFE-PAC Chair, Chapter 87



As you may know, the month of March was designated as “NARFE-PAC Month” for 2020. Although March has passed, NARFE members are still being asked to contribute to NARFE -PAC if you have not done so already this year. Listed below are some pertinent information about NARFE-PAC.

What is NARFE-PAC?

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Political Action Committee stands for NARFE-PAC. A PAC raises and spends money to elect political candidates. PACs must register with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) and file periodic reports disclosing the money raised and spent. NARFE-PAC is an important way NARFE defends the earned pay and benefits of federal employees and retirees. NARFE-PAC makes contributions only to congressional candidates (not involved with presidential candidates) who are supportive of the federal community. NARFE-PAC also builds and strengthens relationships with candidates. NARFE-PAC is a separate, segregated fund of our association, financed solely by voluntary and direct contributions from NARFE members.

How much money did NARFE Members contribute to NARFE-PAC?

For the fourth quarter of the 2019-2020 cycle, 20,853 NARFE members contributed over \$1 million dollars with an average contribution of \$50.03. Some 136 South Carolina NARFE members contributed \$8,365.00 with an average contribution of \$61.51. For Columbia Chapter 87, we had 35 chapter members contributing \$1,805.00, the largest amount of any chapter in South Carolina representing an average contribution of \$51.57.

How Can I as a NARFE member contribute to NARFE-PAC?

NARFE members can contribute any amount as every contribution is appreciated. You may make a one-time contribution or become a monthly sustainer. A monthly sustainer designates a minimum monthly contribution of \$10.00 charged to a credit card. Online contributions can be made by going online to members.narfe.org/Support-NARFE/Support-PAC. Contributions can be mailed in or become a sustainer by completing the “NARFE-PAC Contribution Form” shown here.

(See Chapter 87, page 17)

NARFE-PAC CONTRIBUTION FORM

Maximize Your Support: Give Monthly!

Sustainers receive a sustainer lapel pin and the 17oz. thermal NARFE-PAC water bottle that keeps liquids hot for 12 hours or cold for 24 hours.

\$250 Gold NARFE-PAC lapel pin and thermal NARFE-PAC water bottle

\$100 Silver NARFE-PAC lapel pin

\$50 Bronze NARFE-PAC lapel pin

\$25 Basic NARFE-PAC lapel pin

Contribution totals are cumulative for the 2019-2020 election cycle

NARFE Member #: _____ NARFE Chapter # (if applicable): _____

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I want to make a **monthly** sustainer credit card contribution:

☐ \$25/month ☐ \$10/month ☐ Other: _____/month (minimum of \$10)

Sustainers receive the NARFE-PAC sustainer lapel pin and thermal NARFE-PAC water bottle.

OR

I want to make a **one-time** contribution:

☐ \$250 - Gold 2019-2020 lapel pin and thermal water bottle

☐ \$100 - Silver 2019-2020 lapel pin

☐ \$50 - Bronze 2019-2020 lapel pin

☐ \$25 - Basic 2019-2020 lapel pin

☐ Other: _____

☐ Please do not send any gifts for my contribution. (This saves NARFE-PAC money!)

☐ Charge my credit card (required for monthly contribution)

☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

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Signature: _____

Date: _____

Mail to: NARFE Attn: Budget & Finance 606 North Washington St. | Alexandria, VA 22314

Only members of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association may contribute to NARFE-PAC.

NARFE will neither favor nor disadvantage anyone based on the amount of a contribution or the failure to make a voluntary contribution to this political action fund.

NARFE-PAC contributions are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

TOP FIVE REASONS to give to NARFE-PAC

1. Helping elect members of Congress who support the federal community.
2. Building strong relationships with lawmakers, a key component to winning legislative fights
3. Ensuring the federal community is a powerful political force across the country
4. Pooling individual contributions to maximize impact nationwide
5. Empowering our strongest supporters to become leaders in our fight

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Chapter 87

(Continued from page 16)

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR REPORT

Randy Herald

Greetings, all. I hope you remain safe and healthy during this time of pandemic. Let's keep in mind active members of our federal work force who may be more at risk right now, especially postal workers.

As with almost every other aspect of our nation, legislation has taken a hit from our current situation. The House can pass legislation by voice vote unless a roll call is requested; Senate bills, because they generally require 60 votes are not so easy, so don't expect much to get through right now. We will keep an on the WEP phase out legislation discussed at our last meeting, but don't expect to see any action. One major exception was the CARES Act, the third bill so far to deal with our economic crisis. This two trillion-dollar bill would provide for payments of up to \$1,200.00 per individual based on income, so you may be looking for a check. This money will be disbursed, I believe, in the same manner as your tax refund came to you (either check or direct deposit). There are so many variables in determining payment that I will not try to cover them but keep an eye out for that check. Not all Americans will receive a check.

Social Security and Federal Retirement checks will continue to arrive on schedule. According to NARFE, the Required Minimum Distribution for tax deferred plans has been suspended for 2020. The CARES Act also provides the opportunity to withdraw or take a loan from a 401 plan. Again, there are so many options, I will not take the chance of giving you bad information. While this cash may sound appealing, please note that many plans have taken a big hit in the last month, so now might not be the best time to withdraw. If this event has left you in a tight financial situation, you may wish to check out FEAA.ORG.

Looking back on 2019:

NARFE played a leading role in blocking the administration's misguided OPM reorganization plan, advancing important compromise language that both chambers of Congress supported. As a result of NARFE's efforts, the president signed into law a bill that stopped the OPM reorganization plan from advancing at least until 180 days after a year-long study detailing the challenges facing OPM and recommending solutions. Thanks to NARFE's hard work and the advocacy of its members, presidential budget proposals to eliminate or reduce cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for all current and future retirees were defeated; along with other proposals, the budget plan included over \$177 billion in cuts to benefits, none of which became law.

NARFE worked tirelessly to pass a 3.1 percent average federal pay raise for 2020-a 2.6 percent across-the-board increase and a 0.5 percent average increase in locality rates. The raise, the largest in a decade, keeps pace with average private sector increases and achieves parity with military salary increases.

NARFE secured 12 weeks of paid parental leave for federal employees by working with a coalition of stakeholders and members of Congress.

NARFE joined with congressional allies to pass into law the Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019, which guarantees back pay for those furloughed during last year's 35-day shutdown and those furloughed in all future government shutdowns,

WAYS YOU AS A NARFE MEMBER CAN HELP COLUMBIA - CHAPTER 87 FINANCIALLY

NARFE Chapter 87 is always in need of increasing its financial bottom line. Our chapter relies heavily on member dues which amounts to only \$4.00 a year per member. You as a NARFE member should be aware that our budget does have the budgeted categories for members who are interested in providing extra financial support to Columbia Chapter 87. Listed below are each of the fund category and how you can contribute to one or more of the funds.

Memorial Fund: NARFE members may contribute to this fund in memory of a NARFE member or loved one who has passed on. This contribution can be a one-time contribution in memory of a NARFE member or an annual contribution in memory of a NARFE member or loved one. Any contribution will be noted in our chapter minutes as well as in our quarterly newsletter with the name of the contributor and whose memory the contribution was made in, unless requested by the contributor not to list the contribution.

Luncheon Fund: NARFE members pay \$14.00 to participate in Seawall's Buffet Lun-

cheon when monthly meetings are held. This \$14.00 covers our meeting space, the use of a podium, microphone, projector screen and the once annual use of a piano for Christmas entertainment. Contributions to the Luncheon Fund will help to keep the luncheon costs stable for members attending the monthly meeting.

NARFE Banner Fund: NARFE Columbia Chapter 87 had an almost \$400.00 expenditure to purchase a new chapter banner, pictured to the right, with updated NARFE logo. This purchase caused a drain on the chapter's limited funds. NARFE members may contribute to this fund to help in replenishing the chapter funds for making this purchase.

How to Contribute: Contributions by check or money orders payable to NARFE should be mailed to our Chapter Treasurer as follows: **Robert Shear, Chapter Treasurer, National Active and Retired Federal Employee Association, 309 Mallet Hill Road, Columbia, SC 29223-3224.** Any amount of contribution accepted and appreciated. Contributions will also be collected at monthly meetings.



NARFE MISSION STATEMENT

To support legislation and regulations beneficial to federal civilian employees and annuitants and potential annuitants under any federal retirement system and to oppose those detrimental to their interests.

To promote the general welfare of federal civilian employees and annuitants and potential annuitants, to advise and assist them with respect to their rights under retirement, health and other employee and retiree benefits laws and regulations, and to represent their interests before appropriate authorities.

To cooperate with other organizations and associations in furtherance of these general objectives.



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Chapter 772 staffed a booth at the Chapin Parade

DEBBIE HILL
President, Chapter 772

The two photos below are of members who staffed a booth at the Chapin Parade from which we obtained four potential recruits and, thus far, two joined us at a recent monthly chapter meeting.



Seated: Bob Hill and Morgan Hill, Standing: Norm and Carrie Foote



Seated: Debbie and Morgan Hill, Standing: Carrie and Norm Foote



Carrie Foote, Norm Foote and Debbie Hill raising money for Alzheimer's from Newberry Chapter 772.



L to R: Bob Shear, Federation Immediate Past President, swore in Bob Hill, Treasurer; Norm Foote, Vice President; Linda Hill, Secretary; Morgan Hill, Legislative Chair; Debbie Hill, President; and, seated, Carrie Foote, Social Secretary.

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What's happening in the Clemson Chapter

Gail Cline, President



2020 NARFE Clemson Chapter needs and wants each and every member to participate in our bi-monthly meetings. Put them on your calendar and come join us! I need to appoint several individuals to committees/jobs. Please come forward and volunteer for whatever you would like to participate in with our/your chapter. We need your input and new ideas! You can reach me or leave a message for me at 864-859-7271 or email me at momsetfree@aol.com. Thank You!

David Stupke, Secretary



We welcome David Stupke. David joined the Clemson Chapter in 2019 and happily accepted the position of secretary. I hope many of you will come and welcome David. As secretary, David will keep minutes of all meetings and historic records of the chapter. You may reach David at 864-614-2414 or email davestupke@verizon.net.

Harry Brown, Vice-President



Thank you for electing me as your VP for 2020. I serve as Program Chair for the Clemson Chapter and also Legislative/Pac Chair for the chapter. I attempt to keep everyone informed on any legislative items coming up for vote and will help you in any way I can. I look forward to working with everyone this year. If you have any questions you may contact me at harry_bro@msn.com or you may call me at 864-634-8317. I look forward to serving you this year.

Robbie Ann White, Treasurer



As your treasurer, I promise integrity and honesty. Attending members receive a report showing transactions from the last meeting to present meeting. On February 25th an audit was performed on chapter finances. I am happy to inform you the chapter books were found in order. I also serve you as your editor/communication officer. If you are not receiving emails, please let me know by calling 864-247-5760 or email white.robbyann@gmail.com.

LEGISLATIVE & PAC: PAC is encouraging all members to participate by becoming a sustainer. It is easy; you may have your donations deducted automatically through OPM or use your credit card. Sustainers are recognized and receive rewards. Consider being a SUSTAINER in this year. August is our legislative month. At the April meeting we will be discussing plans for this August. Come and be part of this important event.

SUPPORT YOUR BENEFITS!!!

FROM MEMBERSHIP: By Robbie Ann White: Chapter membership is still dropping. We aren't sure it isn't the way the dues reminder form is set up. With each renewal I notice we are losing members. Please be sure you check to remain a member of your chapter. Your dues support our legislative projects locally. You can also check you magazine label to make sure you are still listed as a member. You'll have 1079 on the label, otherwise they have dropped you from our roster. Please call me or bring a copy of your magazine and come to the meet-

ing so I can get you put back on the roster. We are still meeting at Best Western Plus in Clemson in April, June, August and October. December we'll be having a special Christmas Luncheon, plans to be announced in October. Where do you go for information on your benefits?? If you would like to receive our emails, send your email address to white.robbyann@gmail.com.

Things are a changing...stay informed.

MARK YOUR CALENDERS

April 27-29, 2020: The South Carolina Federation Conference scheduled to be held April 27-29, 2020, in Summerville, SC, has been canceled. Because of the uncertain future from the COVID-19 crisis and dangers posed especially for older Americans, the conference will be held in April 2021 in Summerville.

August 2020 (TBA): Clemson chapter's annual legislative meeting.

August 30-September 1, 2020: NARFE FEDCON 2020 Check your magazine for information.

October 7, 2020: Annual Clemson Chapter meeting and election. We would like to have more participation from all members. It is fun once you get started and get in the groove.

December 2020: Celebration of Christmas (TBA)

News from Hilton Head-Bluffton Chapter 2258

BOB HUISMAN
President, Chapter 2258

Greetings from Chapter 2258, Hilton Head-Bluffton! We hope all of you in our sister chapters are sheltering in place at home to avoid COVID - 19. Things are quiet here as "non-essential" businesses that make this area so popular are closed and only those businesses which supply items needed by us to get through this trying time are open. As is true with all our chapters, most of our members are over 60 and must take the necessary precautions to avoid catching this virus. We cancelled our April meeting as a preventative action. Some of our members do continue to perform volunteer work at organizations (such as Second Helpings, VITA,



VIM, Deep Well, to name a few), as long as they can which shows that seniors provide a large percentage of the volunteer population in our state.

The guest speakers at this year's meetings represented Aetna and Blue Cross/Blue Shield, The Literacy Center and Volunteer Income Assistance (VITA) of the Low Country. Each provided our membership with valuable and interesting information which we appreciated. Some of our members inquired about volunteering with the local programs. I would be remiss if I did not include our most important speaker and Chapter 2258 member, SC Federation President, Blaine Lotz, who shared the latest NARFE information and asked

us to provide him with concerns and suggestions on how to improve NARFE. Many good ideas and thoughts were exchanged as the membership felt empowered to be able to contribute something for the benefit of the entire organization.

On a sad note, one of our long serving officers, current Vice President and Legislative Officer, Paul Russo, relocated to New Jersey to be with family. At present, he continues to serve his positions and provide us with important legislative information. I continue to solicit volunteers from our membership to step up and take over.

Let me close by wishing you all good health and safety during this pandemic. Stay cool, calm and collected and keep listening to the reports and suggestions from the medical experts. God bless us all!



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Chapter 1082 Summerville-Flowertown staying busy

PATRICIA WHITELY
President, Chapter 1082

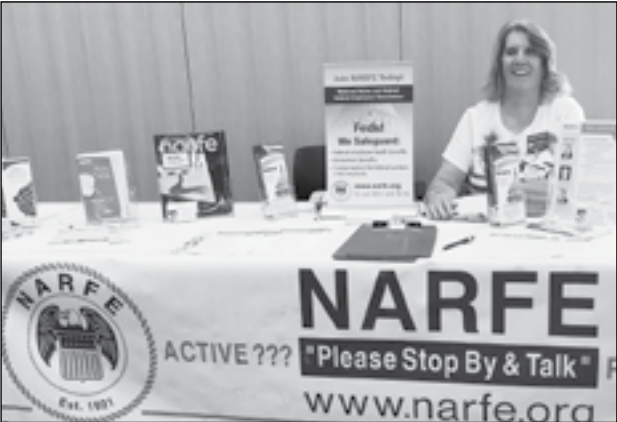
Summerville Chapter 1082 members have been very busy over the past several months.

Our members partnered with Intrepid Hospice and donated a variety of non-perishable food items to help them feed 50 families a hot meal for Thanksgiving and Christmas as well as provided them groceries to sustain them through the holiday periods.

Our chapter members participated in the Charleston area Walk to End Alzheimer's held at the North Charleston Waterfront Park. In addition, we staffed a booth at the walk where we distributed Alzheimer's literature to walk participants and promoted advantages of NARFE membership. A great way to increase awareness about NARFE and our partnership with the Alzheimer's Association. Our chapter raised \$2,000.00 in donations for Alzheimer's.



Blue Cross/Blue Shield, we have established a great partnership with the State Department so that we can return next year.



Pat Whitely is pictured above staffing the chapter's table. The picture below is Marian Henry ready to talk to potential new members.



active in other civic organizations in Summerville. He is a lifetime and distinguished NARFE member.



(L to R) are **Marian Henry**, Chapter 2nd VP for Programs; **Joseph Kohut**, 1st VP for Membership; **Carmen Guerke**, chapter member; **Barbara House**, Chapter Alzheimer's Coordinator; and **Pat Whitely**, Chapter President.



Pictured from the left are **Marian Henry**, **Joseph Kohut** in dark glasses, and **Pat Whitely**.

Joe Kohut, Chapter Membership Chair and Pat Whitely, Chapter President, staffed a table at the Fall Health Benefits Fair at the State Department. This was our second year attending the health fair. We were one of only two vendors that were not health care providers. The total audience was active current federal employees. We spoke with over 100 current federal employees about the benefits of NARFE membership. We obtained contact information for over 25 current federal employees so that we can keep them informed about our meetings and provided them with NARFE information. Working with our Affinity Partner,

Our chapter staffed a booth at Senior Day at the Coastal Carolina Fair. We spoke with over 125 seniors about NARFE, distributed NARFE membership literature, answered questions about health benefits open season and obtained contact information from over 25 potential members.

At a recent chapter meeting, we celebrated Charlie Giavelli's 90th birthday and celebrated his 40+ years as a NARFE member, all with Chapter 1082. Charlie has served honorably in our chapter in every leadership position including multiple terms as chapter president. Charlie received a letter from Ken Thomas, NARFE's National President, congratulating him on both milestones. In addition, Charlie has served at the federation level and he is



Chapter #1082 members at the 2019 Coastal Carolina Fair. (L to R) are **Joe Kohut**, Chapter Membership Chair; **Barbara House**, Chapter Alzheimer's Coordinator; **Pat Whitely**, Chapter President and **Carmen Guerke**, chapter member.



Charlie Giavelli is pictured here while speaking at a Chapter 1082 meeting where he discussed both his federal service and his NARFE membership.



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Candidates for National Secretary / Treasurer

RE-ELECT KATHRYN HENSLEY

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It is official. I filed my statement in December that was published in the March NARFE magazine to be a candidate for re-election to the position of NARFE National Secretary/Treasurer (NS/T). It has been an informative and busy year and a half. There have been a lot of adjustments in NARFE as the association moved to a new organizational structure

at the national level. A number of organization challenges still exist as we continue the implementation of One Member One Vote (OMOV) and Optional Chapter Membership (OCM).

There is a lot to learn about national headquarters and about the NS/T position. The primary responsibility is oversight of our governance and finances and in an organization such as NARFE, it requires a variety of skills. It requires a person in the NS/T position who understands the gravity and the consequences of their decisions along with the checks and balances of managing a multi-million-dollar organization. It requires documentation and adherence to regulations and laws. Some NARFE members have vocalized that the NS/T does not need to be a resident officer. I disagree. Here's why:

- Checks and balances, along with internal controls, are weak in NARFE. It's time to make a correction.
- Oversight has to be observed first-hand, not from a distance of 500 or 1,000+ miles. My predecessor tried it and found it was not a satisfactory solution.
- The NARFE National Secretary/Treasurer serves as the chair or a member of ten NARFE and interagency committees that require varying workloads and frequent unscheduled meetings.

During the past year and a half, we have moved forward on updating bylaws across the organization, revising out of date policies and procedures, and finding smarter ways to work but there is much more to be done. As I seek a second term, here is what I propose as my platform:

- Support growing NARFE, ONE member at a time
- Support strong member recruitment and retention programs
- Support member training at federation and regional levels
- Support strong internal financial controls to eliminate risk factors

- Support transparency of NARFE procedures and operations
- Support some internal realignment of staff for more efficient use of NARFE resources and make sure that member support has the priority response it deserves
- Support active oversight of financial management systems and governance operations in accordance with generally accepted practices
- Support educating congressional and senate members & staff through chapter and federation outreach meetings
- Support use of NARFE's Legislative Hotline using designated phone lines and NARFE's newly revamped web site
- Support members in using NARFE's Legislative Action Center to send representatives and senators prepared letters
- Support strong outreach effort to legislators who have not always been supportive of federal government workers
- Support outreach meetings covering income security and health security issues for current employees and annuitants
- Support a coordinated national plan to overcome the Alzheimer crisis through research, clinical care, home and community-based programs and their outcomes
- Support a strong coalition with other organizations that work on behalf of the Federal family and for senior parity

KATHRYN HENSLEY HAS SHOWN HER COMMITMENT TO –

- NARFE Goals
- Member Development
- Proactive Legislative Action
- Communication and Outreach
- Marketing and Advertising NARFE
- Membership Recruitment and Retention
- Strategic Alignments with Like-Minded Organizations

Experience Does Matter

Biographical Information about Kathryn Hensley

Kathryn (Kathy) Hensley has been a NARFE member since 1989. She is a candidate for re-election as NARFE National Secretary/Treasurer.

Starting her NARFE involvement as she retired from the federal government, she was active in the McLean (#489), Virginia chapter before returning to her home state of South Carolina where she became active in the Columbia (#87), South Carolina chapter and served in nearly every elected position eventually being elected to be President of the South Carolina federation for 2 ½ years. She served on the 2018 NARFE Bylaws Committee and was

elected in 2018 to become the second incumbent of the newly merged National Secretary/Treasurer position.

Kathryn brings a lifetime of professional experience in administrative, financial, grant, and program management positions in the federal government and in conservation and grant administration with state government and the Medical University of South Carolina as well as many years of related volunteer positions.

She retired after 27 years with the Department of Defense and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Washington, DC where she started as a GS-4 Secretary and retired as a GS-14 Grants Advisor/Management Analyst.

In November 2006, she was elected countywide to a 4-year term as a non-partisan Commissioner at the Lexington Soil and Water Conservation District and has been reelected to three additional terms. She has served as chair of the board and as treasurer of this local non-profit board.

She has been an executive director, president, treasurer, and board member of several local, regional and national non-profit organizations. She has served two separate terms as Treasurer of the SC State Democratic Party, volunteered with the Lexington Police Department and the Lexington Town Council.

Kathryn is featured in Profiles of Outstanding Women in Public Administration published in 2006 by the Section for Women of the American Society of Public Administration and was inducted into the SC Democratic Women's Council Hall of Fame in 2008. In 2016, the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration awarded her with their Distinguished Practitioner Award and named it as the Kathryn E. Hensley Distinguished Practitioner Award. In 2016, she was awarded the prestigious Judy Kemp Distinguished Service Award by the SC NARFE Federation. She was the recipient of several leadership awards during her federal career and in other organizations.

She earned a BA in Political Science from the University of South Carolina which includes a secondary course of work in business administration, mainly accounting. She earned a Certificate in Ocean Policy Studies from the University of Virginia and has completed management, financial, and technology courses taught at the National Defense University, the Department of Agriculture Graduate School and Midlands Technical College.

She is a native of South Carolina and has resided in Lexington since 1996 where she has been active in many local and state activities. Through her participation in a variety of activities, she has a network of supporters and colleagues nation-wide.

(See Candidates, page 22)



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Candidates for National Secretary / Treasurer

ELECT CINDY RENEE' BLYTHE



Over the years, I have held several leadership positions in NARFE: as chapter and federation president then Region V Vice-President. All of that experience has led me to seek the position of National Secretary/Treasurer for the 2020-2022 term.

During the National Convention of 2014, we voted to reduce the number of National Officers from four to two, National President and National Treasurer. The bylaw amendment was two-fold; to reduce the number of officers and to remove the “resident” requirement. The article in the July 2014 *NARFE* magazine reads “Both the National President and the National Treasurer would remain ‘resident’ until a successful Executive Director search is complete and adequate transition time has transpired.”

The Executive Director was hired April 2017, yet the National Secretary/Treasurer is still a full-time resident officer. I believe “adequate transition time has transpired” and if elected for the 2020-2022 term I will remain in Kansas with a corresponding reduction in salary conducting business from home with travel to Headquarters when necessary.

Utilizing today’s technology, the duties of the secretary/treasurer can easily be accomplished from Kansas. Go-to-meeting conferences will be conducted weekly or on an as-needed basis. Working from home will ease the expenses of the National Office while still accomplishing the duties of the position. NARFE turns 100 in 2021 and we must do everything possible to sustain our organization.

As we continue to seek younger members, the application of new technologies will demonstrate that our organization is evolving. I pledge to continue to explore new

avenues to regenerate interest in NARFE, while continuing to provide benefits to existing members. It is through our existing members that we gain insight into what potential members need from our organization.

If elected as National Secretary/Treasurer, my first focus will be on mending the gap that exists between National officers and our members. Potential members are of great importance to the continued existence of NARFE, but we must not make light of the members that grew the organization to what it is today and the value they provide. Those members continue to support the mission and vision daily. Just look at the effort members take to communicate with their elected officials, persistently working towards the advocacy program goals.

To help NARFE move forward, I believe our organization needs a strategic plan that is well defined with milestones and measurements. The document produced by the Future of NARFE committee can be used as a guideline but falls short as a stand-alone document. A successful strategic plan must be created with goals derived from the Strategic Outlook Statements and through a series of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analyses, as well as numerous discussions and recommendations from various entities within the organization itself. The process of establishing strategic goals helps prioritize and focus our collective efforts to best accomplish our mission.

I am proud of the fact that I am the second-generation in a three-generation federal civil servant and NARFE family. Both my parents played a central part in creating my local NARFE chapter. Both held various leadership positions; so, my membership in the organization was not unexpected. I remember my mother telling me what NARFE not only could do but was doing that directly made a difference in my federal career. Once I joined our local chapter, I quickly agreed to fill the position of Chapter President. I continued in that position until being elected as Region V Vice-President in 2018.

Leadership positions have always held an allure for me so when the opportunity arose, I put my name in the ring for 2nd Vice-President of the Kansas Federation. I served one year as 2nd Vice-President then was elected as 1st Vice-President. Two short months after the election, Carol Ek was asked to fill the remaining term for Region V Vice-President vacated by Richard Thissen. I moved to Kansas Federation President and served in that position until November 2018 when I accepted the Region V Vice-President position.

Juggling priorities is not new to me; I attained my Bachelor’s and Master’s in Business Administration from Baker University while working full time and picking up extra courses at the local community college.

I am the spouse of a large animal veterinarian, Steven D. Blythe DVM. We have raised two beautiful daughters, Suzanna Marie Cubit and Chantelle Renee’ Haas. Suzanna is currently a registered nurse working on her Master’s degree in nursing while completing the requirements to become a Physician’s Assistant. Chantelle is a Civilian Travel Specialist working for the US Coast Guard in Topeka, Kansas. Suzanna and her husband, Aaron, have four children while Chantelle is a single mother raising her three children.

I hope that members of NARFE allow me the opportunity to continue to utilize the experience I have gained serving in leadership roles and continue my service to NARFE and its members. Thank you for supporting me these past two years as a member of the National Executive Board and I look forward to continuing my service towards a better NARFE as your National Secretary/Treasurer.

invite you to visit my Facebook page, www.facebook.com/ElectCindyRenee/ and feel free to send me a message or questions to my email address of mrsdocbusyb@yahoo.com.



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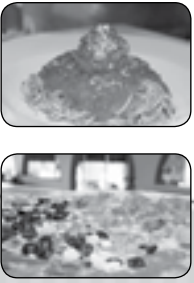


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Active and Retired Federal Employees ... Join NARFE Today!

The only organization dedicated solely to protecting and preserving the benefits of all federal workers and retirees, NARFE informs you of any developments and proposals that affect your compensation, retirement and health benefits, AND provides clear answers to your questions.

Who Should Join NARFE?

If your future security is tied to federal retirement benefits—federal retirees, current employees, spouses and individual survivors—you should join NARFE.

NARFE MEMBER BENEFITS

- Access the NARFE Federal Benefits Institute for powerful resources to help you fully understand and manage your benefits.
- Visit the Legislative Action Center to contact your representatives about bills affecting federal benefits.
- Get monthly issues of *NARFE Magazine* with news and insights for the federal community.
- Visit the Member Perks page for a full listing of the many time-, money- and hassle-saving benefits available only to NARFE members.
- The opportunity to get involved at the local level by joining a chapter in your area.

NARFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ **YES. I want to join NARFE for the low annual dues of \$40.**

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss ☐ Ms.

Full Name

Street Address

Apt./Unit

City

State

ZIP

Phone

Email

I am a (check all that apply)

- ☐ Active Federal Employee ☐ Active Federal Employee Spouse
☐ Annuitant ☐ Annuitant Spouse ☐ Survivor Annuitant

☐ **Please enroll my spouse**

Spouse's Full Name

Spouse's Email

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- ☐ Check, Money Order or Bill Pay (Payable to NARFE)
☐ Bill me (NARFE membership will start when payment is received.)
☐ Charge my:
☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX

Card No.

Expiration Date ____ / ____
mm yyyy

Name on Card

Signature

Date

TOTAL DUES

\$40 Annual Dues X _____ = _____
Per Person # Enrolling Total Dues

Dues payments are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

LOOKING TO MEET OTHERS in the federal community and participate in NARFE at a local level? Call 800-456-8410 to learn about a NARFE chapter in your area.

Would you like to receive a FREE one-year chapter membership? Choose one:

☐ Chapter closest to home OR ☐ Chapter # _____

MAY WE THANK SOMEONE? Did someone introduce you to NARFE? Please provide their Name and Member ID.

Recruiter's Name

Recruiter's Membership ID

NARFE respects the privacy of our members. Personal information is used to provide content and relevant communications to our members, and will not be sold or rented to third parties.

(0719)

THREE EASY WAYS TO JOIN

1. **Complete this application** and mail with your payment to NARFE Member Services / 606 N Washington St / Alexandria, VA 22314-1914.
2. Join online at **www.NARFE.org**.
3. **Call 800-456-8410**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET.

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Please add your name, chapter and membership number as a recruiter on membership application and give a copy of the paper to potential members. Consider leaving a copy of it at your local post office, but again always add your membership number on the application before leaving the newspaper and ask permission before leaving it with any office.

Chapter Meeting Information

Chapter 72 Margaret L. Baptiste-Greater Charleston
• 2nd Friday each month (except no meetings in July and August), 12:00 noon, John Wesley Methodist Church Activity Building, 626 Savannah Highway, Charleston

Chapter 87 Columbia
• 2nd Friday each month, 11:30 am, Seawell's, 1125 Rosewood Drive, Columbia

Chapter 560 Spartanburg
• 2nd Tuesday each month (except no meetings from June through August), 11:30 am, Golden Corral Restaurant, 1492 W O Ezell Blvd., (Rte.#29) Spartanburg

Chapter 121 Greenville
• 1st Tuesday the months of January, March, May, September and November, 11:30 am, Carolina Fine Foods Restaurant, 625 S.E. Main Street, Simpsonville

Chapter 772 Newberry
• 3rd Tuesday the months of January, March, May, September, October and November, 12 noon, Mid Carolina Golf Course, 3593 Kiblers Bridge Rd, Prosperity

Chapter 934 Aiken
• 2nd Wednesday each month (except no meetings from June through August), 11:00 am, Golden Corral, 2265 Whiskey Road, Aiken

Chapter 960 Florence
• 1st Friday each month (except no meeting in July), 11:30 am, Bazen's Restaurant Small Dining Room, 704 South Irby Street, Florence

Chapter 1015 Meunier-Perry Myrtle Beach
• 3rd Thursday each month (except no meetings in July and August), 11:30 am, Damon's Steak House, located at South Beach Boulevard, Myrtle Beach

Chapter 1021 Beaufort
• 2nd Wednesday each month (except no meetings from June through August), 11:00 am, St. Paul Baptist Church, 22 St. Paul's Church Road, Beaufort

Chapter 1082 Summerville / Flowertown
• 3rd Monday each month (except no meetings from June through August), 1:30 pm, Faith Sellers Senior Center, 312 N. Laurel Street, Summerville

Chapter 1079 Clemson
• 1st Wednesday the months of February, April, June, August, October and December, 11:30 am, Best Western Inn, 1310 Tiger Blvd., Clemson

Chapter 1180 Tri-County Rock Hill
• 2nd Tuesday each month, 12:00 noon, Jackson Cafeteria, 1735 Heckle Blvd., Rock Hill

Chapter 2258 Hilton Head
• 1st Tuesday each month (except no meetings from June thru August), 12 noon, Golden Corral Restaurant, 1196 Fording Island Road (Rte 278), Bluffton

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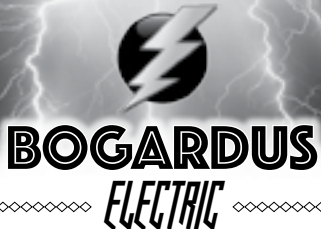
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