



## *Serving Active & Retired Federal Employees*

*January/February 2025*

### *South Carolina Federation President*

*Olivia Williams*  
*[oeashf3@gmail.com](mailto:oeashf3@gmail.com)*



Greetings to all our wonderful Federation Officers, Chapter Presidents, Chapter Officers, other Coordinators and all our Chapter Members. Happy New Year and we trust you are looking forward to attending our upcoming 59<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Federation Conference March 17-19, 2025, in Summerville.

I have had the privilege of installing the officers of Myrtle Beach Chapter during their wonderful Holiday Meeting and Celebration on December 12, 2024. It was a grand affair with lots of fun.

I also had the pleasure of installing the officers at the NARFE Columbia Chapter 87 Holiday Meeting as well. And we also had a wonderful time. We have been busy planning for our upcoming conference and let me thank all the current officers and appointed committee members for all your hard work in the planning of our NARFE South Carolina Federation 59<sup>th</sup> State Conference. Our upcoming conference is scheduled to be held March 17-19, 2025, at the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel in Summerville, SC.

We need the assistance of everyone in making this a remarkably successful conference. You see it takes all of us to make our upcoming

conference a success and we solicit your support with all your various skills and talents. Therefore, Chapter Presidents, please be thinking of some creative incentives to encourage your chapter members to attend the conference. If you have never attended one before, this is your opportunity to gain more experience about NARFE National Officers, Regional Officers, State Officers and Local Officers while making new acquaintances. I am looking forward to seeing all of you and best regards.

### *South Carolina Federation Executive Vice President*

*Kevin Toevs*  
*[Toevs.kevin@gmail.com](mailto:Toevs.kevin@gmail.com)*



On my chapter level, we ordered the new members application forms (F-135) and are currently making efforts to approach all the government agencies in our area of responsibility (AOR) and display for the employees to review...and hopefully join!!! On September 28, I walked in our area **Walk to End Alzheimer's**.

**South Carolina Federation Secretary**  
**Debbie Hill**  
**Email: [Debbie.hill61@yahoo.com](mailto:Debbie.hill61@yahoo.com)**



The Federation Executive Committee has been very busy since the November newsletter publication coordinating events for the upcoming Federation Conference scheduled for March 17 - 19 in Summerville, SC. I encourage you to register soon if you have not already done so. This conference will be very different from conferences in the past, however, no less exciting or rewarding in regard to the knowledge you will gain from our guest speakers. Our Executive Committee had one zoom meeting on December 6th to discuss primarily the SC Federation Conference and is planning another zoom meeting prior to a scheduled FEB/Presidents Zoom Meeting January 16th in order to iron out any lingering details.

I'm continuing to learn the ins and outs of being your Federation Secretary and continue to pledge to do my very best.  
Hope to see you in Summerville in March!

**South Carolina Federation Treasurer**  
**Patricia Whitely**  
**Email: [pwhitely64@gmail.com](mailto:pwhitely64@gmail.com)**



**FEDERATION TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Checking Account:**

Beginning Balance - December 1, 2024  
..... \$ 32,634.78  
Income ..... \$ 628.41  
Expenses..... \$ 00  
Ending Balance - December 31, 2024  
\$ 33,263.19

**InFirst FCU Share Account Balance:** \$5.03

There are no checks outstanding.

\*\*Income is in the form of dividends earned on the account this month. This amount is based on our total membership as of the end of the previous month. The amount received on December 12 is \$627.01. This is the 10% funds for September 2024. Headquarters in the process of finalizing 10% funds for October-December. We should see those funds soon.

**SC Federation 2025 Conference**  
**Joe Kohut and Pat Whitely-Co-Chairpersons**

The South Carolina Federation conference will be held in Summerville again on March 17-19 March 2025. We will meet in person at the same hotel we met at in 2023, the Hilton Garden Inn in Nexton. If you attended the 2023 conference, you know how nice the hotel accommodations are. The committee has been planning an informative and fun event, so mark your calendars/save the dates and plan to attend. The registration deadline is February 14 and the deadline for hotel reservations is February 24. Joe Kohut and Pat Whitely are Conference Co-chairs. The committee is soliciting ideas from all Federation members for potential sponsors, vendors, or exhibitors. Please submit any ideas to the committee as soon as possible. We need lots of participation from everyone to make the conference another success.

**Alzheimer's Update**  
**Olivia Williams**  
**Email: [oeashf3@gmail.com](mailto:oeashf3@gmail.com)**

We have raised \$90,899.40 in the first four Months of FY 2025 compared to \$85,743.68 in FY 2024, which is up \$5,155.72. NARFE Chapters this is great and please keep up the Good Work.

NARFE fundraising National total as of NOVEMBER 30, 2024, is \$16,389,854.03. This also includes \$3,355.00 from the Chapter Teams and the Captains in the amount raised from the 2023 Longest Day and \$108,938.13 raised from the 2023 Walk to End Alzheimer's contributions which is reported in this month and is included at the bottom of your NARFE Federation State Totals Sheet. GREAT JOB EVERYONE.

During November 2024, our members raised a combined total of \$20,445.13 down \$2,105.96 from this time in November 2023 towards "OUR NEW NARFE GOAL OF \$17 MILLION BY DECEMBER 2026". Again, Special thanks to all the NARFE Members who made it HAPPEN and for your continued generous donations. We have raised \$111,344.53 in the first five Months of FY 2025 compared to \$63,195.59 in FY 2024, which is up \$48,148.94. NARFE Chapters this is great and please keep up the Good Work.

***South Carolina Federation Legislative Update***  
***John Geiger***  
***Email: [jjgeiger@aol.com](mailto:jjgeiger@aol.com)***

Consider attending LEGCON2025 (June 2025 with the arrival of the new 119<sup>th</sup> Congress and a new Administration) and becoming active in the Legislative effort of NARFE as a Congressional District Leader (CDL) Grassroots Advocates' to protect our earned pension and benefits. Thanks for what you are doing and have done for NARFE.

***Margaret Baptiste Charleston Chapter 72,***  
***Bill Greenhill, Chapter President***  
***[billgreenhill@gmail.com](mailto:billgreenhill@gmail.com)***

Our meetings are from noon to 2 PM on the second Friday of each month in the West Ashley area in Charleston. In our meetings we also provide helpful information about changes to benefits for federal employees and retirees. We will be focusing in the next few meetings about updates to the new legislation increasing Social Security benefits to government employees, retirees, and spouses. Our meeting agendas always include news about what is happening in

Congress and federal agencies affecting federal employees and retirees.

All meetings begin with interesting outside speakers. We have speakers from local agencies and programs offering services benefiting senior citizens, since members attending our meetings are retired. We have had recent speakers at our meetings telling us recent developments helping people with Alzheimer's and very informative presentations about health insurance for federal retirees from Blue Cross. Another recent talk provided very helpful fire safety information for senior citizens. We take pride in inviting excellent and interesting speakers to each meeting that will be helpful to our members.

NARFE members and their spouses are invited to attend our meetings on the second Friday of each month from Noon to 2 PM except July & August to learn helpful information for federal employees and retirees. Please email [billgreenhill@gmail.com](mailto:billgreenhill@gmail.com), President of NARFE 72, or phone Bill Greenhill at 843 810 2648 if you have any questions or to let us know you wish to come. NARFE members are welcome to come without letting us know in advance.

Our meetings include lunch as Waring Senior Center has a program providing lunch meals. Box lunches can be pre-ordered by 10 AM on the Wednesday before the meeting for \$7. Portions are big enough that many people can get 2 meals from it. One can order the lunch by calling Waring Senior Center at 843 402 1990 and providing a credit card number by 10 AM the Wednesday before the meeting. Meals can also be ordered on the Waring Senior Center web page. Those not wanting to order lunch can bring their own lunch and join us. Sandwiches, drinks and snacks now can also be purchased by credit card in the café at the senior center before the meeting without a preorder. We now enjoy lunch together as a group at 11:30 AM before the Noon meeting. We then hold our meeting to get updated about news important to federal employees, spouses, and retirees.

If you live in or near the Charleston area, we invite you to join us at our meetings.



# Registration Form

**59th Annual SC NARFE Federation Conference-March 17-19, 2025**

**Sign-in:** Mar 17 (noon to 3:45 pm & 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm) & Mar 18 (7:30 am to 8:30 am)

**Opening Ceremony:** March 17 at 4:00 pm

Make hotel room reservations for SC NARFE Conference direct with:

**Hilton Garden Inn — 406 Sigma Drive — Summerville, SC 29486**

**Toll Free Reservation: 1-877-STAY-HGI or Online Reservation: [www.hilton.com](http://www.hilton.com)** see link below

**Cut Off Date for Hotel Room Reservations is February 24, 2025.** The special conference rate is **\$154.00, plus 13% tax and \$2.18 destination fee per night.** If you wish to extend your stay or would like an upgraded or accessible room, please contact the hotel directly at **843-832-1304**. Be sure to speak with someone at the front desk to make your reservation. The conference room rate is good for 3 days before March 17 and 3 days after March 19. Late reservations subject to availability and prevailing rate. Booking link: <https://group.hiltongardeninn.com/jvauo0> Group code (NARFE) is only needed if you opt to call the property to reserve your room instead of using the link. The booking link automatically attaches our group code/rate in the booking process.

The Hilton Garden Inn is located just off I-26, within a mile of local dining and major retailers. The hotel is just 30 minutes from Charleston and Lake Moultrie. Relaxation is easy with a resort-style pool and several walking trails nearby. WiFi and parking are both free. Full-service restaurant and lounge. Check-in begins at 3:00 pm and check out is 11:00 am. **Note: Use a separate conference registration form for each registrant.**

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE.**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name, if different from First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: Street or PO Box # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(ONLY CHECK ONE) NARFE National only member \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter member \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

NARFE Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Name/Location \_\_\_\_\_

Current Chapter Officer Position/Positions \_\_\_\_\_

Current Federation Officer Position/Positions \_\_\_\_\_

Past Federation President (show dates of service) \_\_\_\_\_

SC NARFE Federation Conference registration fee is \$85.00 per person. The fee includes the reception on Monday evening (at 6:30 pm) and farewell luncheon Wednesday at noon following conference adjournment. Please submit payment in full **by February 14, 2025**. Late registration fee postmarked after **February 14, 2025**, is \$90.00. Registration cancellations between February 15-20, 2025, will be charged a \$15 handling fee and any cancellation between March 10 and March 15, 2025, will be charged a \$35 fee. Any cancellation fee will be waived if it is due to hospitalization or other serious issue depending on what meal function guarantees have been made. Payment shall be made by check payable to SC NARFE Federation Conference and mailed with this registration form to: SC NARFE Federation Conference, ATTN: John Pennella, 210 Carolinian Drive, Summerville, SC 29485-7854

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

Item No \_\_\_\_\_ Received \_\_\_\_\_ Check No \_\_\_\_\_  
\_Amount\_\_\_\_\_ Registrations\_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Date\_\_\_\_\_

# Official Ballot

South Carolina NARFE Federation 2025 Election

## Instructions to voters

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

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

## ELECTED OFFICES Note: (I) - Incumbent

For President		For Executive Vice President	
One Year Term	Vote for not more than <b>ONE</b>	One Year Term	Vote for not more than <b>ONE</b>
Kathryn Hensley, Columbia Chapter 87 Olivia Williams, Columbia Chapter 87 (I)  (Write-In) _____		Harry Brown, Clemson Chapter 1079  (Write-In) _____	
For Secretary		For Treasurer	
One Year Term	Vote for not more than <b>ONE</b>	One Year Term	Vote for not more than <b>ONE</b>
Debbie Hill, Newberry Chapter 72 (I)  (Write-In) _____		Patricia Whitely, Summerville Chapter 1082 (I)  (Write-In) _____	

**Enter your NARFE membership ID #** \_\_\_\_\_

Find your NARFE membership ID # on your narfe magazine label

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#ABCDEF G *****CAR-RT LOT**R-040
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JANE SMITH
1234 ANYWHERE LANE
ANYTOWN, WA 12345-6789
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Fold the ballot, insert in an envelope, and add first class postage.

**Mail to: Debbie Hill, 441 Maple Knoll Rd, Prosperity, SC., 29127**

There is also a fillable ballot you can download on the [sclarfe.org](http://sclarfe.org) website.

When finished entering the information in the [sclarfe.org](http://sclarfe.org) fillable ballot, save it and then email it to **debbie.hill61@yahoo.com**.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** To be counted, your ballot must contain your NARFE membership ID # (as shown on the label on the front of the NARFE magazine you receive at your home address) and be received by Debbie Hill **no later than March 5, 2025**

***Newberry Chapter 772***  
***Debbie Hill, Chapter President***  
***Email: [Debbie.hill61@yahoo.com](mailto:Debbie.hill61@yahoo.com)***

Chapter 0772 in Newberry remains active and well. We currently have 18 chapter members and 4 national members, having lost 2 active members, Ronald Waldhour and James Hunter due to death. Our chapter truly grieves their loss and contributions to our chapter. Furthermore, we continue to have very interesting guest speakers at our monthly meetings due to our outstanding Programs Chair, Elizabeth Adams. For instance, our speakers for October and November, were Jackie Swindler, Director SC Criminal Justice Academy who earned a master's in criminal justice from the University of SC and Boyd Parr, DVM, graduate of Clemson University who received a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Georgia. (pictures forwarded via text message). Also, our chapter had a wonderful Holiday Luncheon at the Flight Deck in Lexington on Saturday December 21st. In addition to lunch, Christmas carols were sung led by Morgan Hill, games played, and door prizes given out! What a fun outing and way to end 2024. The same officers were reelected who have served the past six years, and we are excited to have the Federation VP, Kevin Toevs, to come and swear these officers in at the January 21st Meeting at Mid Carolina Country Club, Prosperity, SC. (photo will be sent after meeting hopefully in time to include). Even though our chapter is the smallest in the Federation, we continue to raise money for Alzheimer's Research and remain involved in FEEA and PAC activities. My spouse and I have already registered and are looking forward to attending the SC NARFE Federation Conference in Summerville, SC March 17-19 of this year. Let me encourage everyone reading this article to register for this conference supporting our Federation and its Officers, thereby showing your interest in protecting your Federal Benefits by being proactive!" CHAPTER 772 KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!

***Myrtle Beach Meunier-Perry Chapter 1015***  
***Joseph Arsenault***  
***Email: [jga429@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jga429@sbcglobal.net)***

In October Chapter members participated in a day long BCBS Open Season Health Care seminar in which 3 separate programs were conducted. Two Sessions focused on Federal Employee benefits under FEHB, and one session was held specifically for Postal Employees being converted to the new PSHB program. During the event Chapter 1015 staffed a NARFE information table complete with membership application forms, as well as copies of NARFE magazine. It was surprising to learn just how many of the attendees had never heard of NARFE. We used this information to email each of the people a copy of our chapter newsletter. In total we had 28 people complete information cards, and to date we have secured two new members to our chapter. Unfortunately, we do not know how many may have joined as National Only members.

In November, the Chapter participated in the Myrtle Beach area Walk to End Alzheimer's and again had a very successful event. The chapter had a goal of raising \$1000.00, and when all was said and done, we raised \$2211.00, more than double the goal. One of our members, Cathy Linta-Leader raised some \$1850.00 dollars through numerous donations to the walk. It was just an incredible effort on her part.

In December the chapter held its Annual Meeting/Holiday Party at the Sons and Daughters of Italy Lodge 2662. Federation President Olivia Ashford Williams was able to attend and addressed the group on various topics such as the National Convention in St. Louis, and the upcoming Federation Conference to be held in Summerville in March of 2025. She further stated that as of this writing, the 2027 in person Federation Conference will be returning to Myrtle Beach. Following her presentation, the results of the Chapter elections were announced, and President Williams administered the oath of office to the successful candidates. President-Joe Arsenault, Vice President - Rebecca Hyman, Secretary - Cathy Linta-Leader, Treasurer- Mary Brady. Here is a photo of the swearing in. At the conclusion of the formal agenda, all attendees enjoyed a relaxing and fun-filled luncheon. We will now turn our focus to 2025.

Chapter 1082-Summerville  
Patricia Whitely, President  
Email: pwhitely64@gmail.com

Our chapter meetings are all in person. Our average attendance at most chapter meetings is 22-25, which is down from our pre-pandemic average of 30-35.

Currently, we have 108-chapter members and 86 National only members for a total membership of 194 down a bit, but we continue to attempt to increase our membership numbers. We have got a few new members but we also lose about the same number as we recruit.

John Pennella, our Chapter Treasurer, continues to ensure our chapter's finances are in order. He provides excellent support each month keeping track of our financial status.

Our Legislative Chairperson, Ken Coates provides updates on the various legislative bills that NARFE is following. Ken keeps us informed of various ongoing scams.

Marian Henry, recently volunteered to serve as Chapter Secretary in addition to also serving as our Programs VP and hostess. She works very hard to locate guest speakers for each meeting and the additional duties as secretary has been a seamless process.

A few chapter members participated in the October Walk to End Alzheimer's. We raised around \$200. We also staffed a booth at the Coastal Carolina Fair where we provided information about NARFE to attendees on Senior Day.

## FEDERATION PHOTO GALLEY



Summerville Chapter-Joe Kohut With Dorchester Senior Staff-presenting donation to Senior Center



Newberry Chapter members Holiday Party



Charleston Chapter 72 members



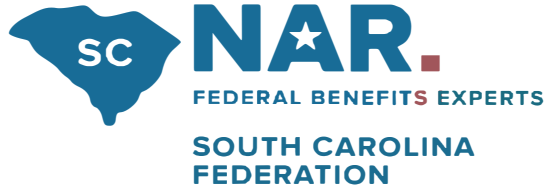
Federation Executive VP swearing in Newberry Chapter officers for 2025-2026.



On November 9, 2024, Rock Hill Chapter #1180 participated in the 2024 Walk to End Alzheimer's, in Rock Hill, SC. Chapter Secretary Kevin Toevs getting ready to walk and is seen proudly sporting a new NARFE ballcap.



Pat Whitely-Past Federation President Recruiting new members at the UPMA Conference at Myrtle Beach



WWW.SC NARFE.ORG

Debbie Hill  
441 Maple Knoll Rd.,  
Prosperity, SC 29127

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