



# NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

CHAPTER #87 COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

July-August-September 2018

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 14, Issue 3

## Ernest Williams President



**Chapter 87 to host the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual South Carolina Federation Conference of NARFE Chapters in 2019:** The Conference will be held in Columbia; however, the date and location has not yet been determined by the Federation Executive Board. This is advance notice to our chapter membership to make plans to attend this Conference and to volunteer to help when called upon. We want the 2019 SC Federation Conference to be the best ever.

Our Chapter continues to experience a reversal of the trend of members transferring their membership from our Chapter to the non-chapter category due to changes that were made on renewal forms by NARFE. However, our Membership Chair, Clara Gillintine, has been contacting each member to ask that they continue their membership in the chapter.

We addressed this issue in previous newsletters and we are doing so at this time due to the importance of growing our chapter membership. If it's time for you to renew your membership, please pay the additional \$4.00 chapter dues and stay with our chapter. Or, sign up for dues withholding from your monthly annuity for a few dollars a month and you won't receive the annual renewal form from NARFE HQ. Dues withholding is at the reduced price of \$37.00 a year so you almost pay for both non-chapter and local chapter dues by doing dues withholding. As a chapter member, you will continue to receive this quarterly newsletter providing information about the monthly meeting even if you may not be able to join us for every meeting. If you have questions about the renewal form or the process to transfer back to our chapter from non-chapter only, contact Clara at: [giillentine1c803@aol.com](mailto:giillentine1c803@aol.com) or the phone number listed for her on Page 2.

Please join me in extending congratulations to Paul Donahue of our chapter for receiving the 2017 Judy Kemp Award for Distinguished Service at the SC Federation Conference. Paul has been a member of our chapter for many years, a past president, the current webmaster for our chapter web site, chapter membership committee, and SC Federation Web Coordinator as well as a number of other positions. Additionally, he is active in his church and is a Lexington County Election worker among other community activities. Well done, Paul.

I invite each of you to meet with our chapter members for a couple of hours on the second Friday each month at 11:00 a.m. for a complete buffet lunch, committee reports, informative speakers and fellowship at Seawell's Restaurant on Rosewood Drive in Columbia (across from State fairgrounds). If you have suggestions or want to be more involved in our chapter, please let me know. Your involvement makes us stronger.

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## GUEST SPEAKERS

*July 13, 2018*

**Healthy Lives**  
**SUSAN ALLGOOD**  
*PLS Account Director*  
*Aetna Federal Health Plans*

*August 10, 2018*

**Legislative Advocacy**  
**RANDY HERALD**  
*3rd Vice President*  
*Chapter #87*

*September 14, 2018*

**Road Construction in SC**  
**SPEAKER not confirmed**  
*South Carolina*  
*Department of Transportation*

## REGISTER TODAY

**FEDcon18**  
LEARN • ADVOCATE • LEAD

**August 26-28, 2018**

Hyatt Regency

225 E. Coastline Dr.  
Jacksonville, Florida



Chapter 87 meets the second Friday of each month, at 11:30 A.M., at Seawell's at 1125 Rosewood Dr., Columbia, SC, directly across from the main entrance to the SC Fair Grounds. Doors open at 11:00 A.M. A complete buffet lunch costs \$14.00, payable at the door. A reservation is not required so come join us.

**PLEASE BE PROMPT.**

## 2018 CHAPTER OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President	Ernest Williams	(803)783-6825	Greeter — Welcome	Eddie Adams	(803)234-2247
Immediate Past President	Kathy Hensley	(803)957-7750	Greeter — Welcome	Josie McLeod	(803)254-7239
1st Vice President	Clara Gillentine	(803)796-3106	Legislative	Charles (Randy) Herald	(803)520-7169
2nd Vice President	Kathy Hensley	(803)957-7750	Membership	Clara Gillentine	(803)796-3106
3rd Vice President	Charles (Randy) Herald	(803)520-7169	NARFE — FEEA	Anna Lane	(803)865-8483
Secretary	Loraine Montgomery	(803)239-8323	NARFE — PAC	Tom Castellucio	(803)786-1783
Treasurer	LaNora Jensen	(803)315-5862	Programs	Kathy Hensley	(803)957-7750
Chaplain	Tom Daniels	(803)865-0383	Public Relations	Kathy Hensley	(803)957-7750
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ronnie Settles	(803)865-1090	Registration	Nellie Bodenhamer	(803)894-3245
Executive Committee	Elaine Von Eck	(803)738-1569	Registration	Vacant	
Executive Committee	Eddie Adams	(803) 234-2247	Service Officer	William M. Toney	(803)786-1097
Executive Committee	William M. Toney	(803)786-1097	Newsletter Editor	Kathy Hensley	(803)957-7750
Executive Committee	Nellie Bodenhamer	(803)894-3245	Newsletter Assistant	Patrice Mickens	(803)798-8378
Parliamentarian	Vacant		50/50 Drawing	Patrice Mickens	(803)798-8378
Alzheimer's	Betty Wessinger	(803)345-5862	Network Coordinator	Paul Donahue	(803)951-3213
Audit	Paul Donahue	(803)951-3213	Historian	Nellie Bodenhamer	(803)894-3245
Health & Happiness	Betty Missouri	(803)477-4592	SC Federation AVP	Ed Griffin	(803)240-6569

### Programs - 2nd Vice President

**Kathy Hensley**



**JULY 13, 2018—Susan Allgood** is a PLS Account Director for Aetna Federal Health Plans. She has been with Aetna for over 20 years and is based out of Franklin, TN. Susan's tenure with Aetna has been exclusively representing the Federal Employees Health Benefit Plans (FEHB). She loves educating federal retirees to ensure they understand all aspects of their benefits. In her spare time Susan loves to enjoy the beautiful countryside on the back of her husband's motorcycle.



**AUGUST 10, 2018 — Randy Herald** is the 3rd Vice President for Legislation of Chapter #87. He is responsible for keeping our chapter informed about legislation that affects active and retired federal employees. August is National NARFE Advocacy Month. Several bills are being proposed as well as some Executive Orders which will adversely affect current government workers and retirees benefit and income. He will have form letters for us to sign to be mailed to our Congressional members.

**SEPTEMBER, 14 2018 — SPEAKER** (not confirmed) Everywhere we go in South Carolina, we seem to run into roads under construction. Whether it is an interstate or a small rural road, we are finally seeing our tax dollars at work. I apologize for not having the speaker's name. It is entirely my fault but I'm sure we will enjoy the program.

### Health and Happiness

**Betty Missouri**

**Report for April, May and June:** Four sympathy cards, six get well and eighteen birthday cards were sent. Three chapter members, Randy Herald, Loraine Montgomery, and Clara Gillentine had knee replacement surgery in June. All are home recuperating and we hope to see them at a meeting soon. If you did not receive a birthday card or you know of a chapter member who passes away or is grieving the loss of a family member, please let me know. It is difficult to keep up with hospitalizations and illnesses. We welcome Nellie Bodenhamer back after a brief hospitalization. If one of our members is ill or hospitalized, please call me at 803-736-5374 and I will send a card.

## NARFE 2018 Election Final Vote Summary for National Officers - July 03, 2018

Information concerning NARFE election results for National Officers was provided by Federation President Bob Shear. There's some very good news here for South Carolina in that our own Kathy Hensley was elected the new national secretary/treasurer. Kathy will take office on November 1, 2018. The South Carolina Federation was in top two or three federations in terms of % of members voting. The total turnout was 6.77% of ballots sent. I'm sure we will hear more about the One Member One Vote change that was voted on last year.

### For National President

Jon Dowie	2,583	19.55%
Steve Lenkart	3,777	28.58%
Ken Thomas	4,979	37.68%
Theodore A.(Ted) Van Hintum	<u>1,875</u>	<u>14.19%</u>
	13,214	100.00%

### For National Secretary/Treasurer

Kathryn Hensley	7,457	56.31%
Richard G. Thissen	<u>5,786</u>	<u>43.69%</u>
	13,243	100%

As you can see, no candidate for national president won a majority. There will be a second ballot, which will be published in the September 2018 magazine. It will be a preferential ballot, since that item on the ballot was approved by 79.78%. The national president candidates had until 5 pm ET Sunday, July 8, to notify HQ via email whether they wished to be included on that ballot.

## Training and Inspiration for Feds! FEDcon18

Join us at **FEDcon18** in Jacksonville, Florida, **August 26-28**, for a one-of-a kind forum celebrating the dedication of America's civil servants. Get ready for a lively two and a half days of thought-provoking speakers, leadership training, intensive education on federal benefits and financial planning, and opportunities to connect with fellow NARFE members and federal colleagues. NARFE experts will deliver in over 30 sessions and workshops:

- \* On Federal Benefits \* On Advocacy \* On Leadership \* On Life Management

Stop by **NARFETown** – It takes a village, and ours is **NARFETown**. NARFE's own benefit experts as well as representatives from OPM, TSP and Social Security will all be in one place to provide individualized information and guidance just for you.

**PLUS:** Five keynote speakers:

NPR/Fox News's **Mara Liasson** with words of wisdom on the current state of politics and the federal community;

NASA astronaut **Mike Massimino** with his unique perspective on teamwork and leadership as a civil servant;

Former Redskins football quarterback **Joe Theismann** with advice on how to tackle the challenge of change;

Federal Benefits Expert **Tammy Flanagan** rethinks retirement and inspires you to live the retirement of your dreams;

Actor and author **Henry Winkler** shares with humor his inspiring story of childhood struggles to stardom and beyond and valuable insight on overcoming perceptions



Mr. Gerald White receiving the 2018 E. Roy Stone, Jr. Legionnaire of the Year Award for the American Legion, Department of South Carolina. He was presented the award during the Department Awards Luncheon on Friday, June 1, 2018.

## FEDcon18

Register Today by visiting FEDcon18 at [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org) for registration and daily event details  
**\$175 for Members & \$235 for Non-Members!**  
**Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront**  
 (Convention room rate \$99 plus tax)  
 225 E. Coastline Dr.  
 Jacksonville, Florida 32202



# NARFE

WWW.87.SCINARFE.ORG

Columbia, SC CHAPTER #87  
National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association  
1036 Mack Edisto Rd Ext  
Swansea, SC 29160-9213

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## TIME SENSITIVE

Service Officer William Toney

### NEW MEDICARE CARDS

NARFE members with Medicare cards will be receiving a new card as Medicare has started mailing out new ID cards to its 60 million members. AARP has done a survey that revealed more than three-quarters of Medicare members know little or nothing about the initiative to use newly assigned ID numbers in place of their Social Security Number (SSN) as their identification. The mailings started in April of this year and will continue over a yearlong period.

The new Medicare Number will be a unique combination of numbers and letters. Medicare cards are now mailing in Alaska, California, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia, American Samoa, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. To learn more about when your card will arrive, go to [www.Medicare.gov/NewCard](http://www.Medicare.gov/NewCard).

#### Medicare.gov/NewCard

**Three things to know:** 1. Your new card will automatically come to you. You don't need to do anything as long as your address is up to date. 2. If you need to update your address, visit your "My social security account" online. You can go on to your Medicare online account and request to be notified by email when your new Medicare card is in the mail. 3. Once you get your new Medicare card, destroy your old Medicare card and start using your new card right away.

**Watch out for Scams!** The new Medicare cards are a step forward to prevent fraud. However, con artists are already working on new ways to scam seniors. AARP tells us scammers are posing as Medicare representatives calling beneficiaries demanding a processing fee. Other scammers are telling beneficiaries that they are owed a refund from transactions on their old card and then asking for bank account information to process the reimbursement. Medicare will never ask an enrollee for a bank account number, and no refund is owed. Medicare will never call you uninvited and ask for personal or private information to get your Medicare number and card. If someone asks you for your information for money, or threatens to cancel your health benefits if you don't share your personal information, hang up and **call Medicare at 1-800-633-4227.**