



**2011 ANNUAL CONVENTION, CAROLINA BEACH**

Reports indicate this was one of our best conventions: great facilities and a well planned convention with several informative speakers representing: OPM, Social Security, Elder Law, and NARFE's National Legislative director. There were 203 total attendees. The 2010-2011 elected federation officers were reelected for the 2011-2012 term: Paul Sams, President; Vilma Geisert, Exec. Vice President; Gracie Couch, Secretary; and Sam Crane, Treasurer. The budget was not increased from last year, and chapter reimbursement to the Federation was not changed.

**2012 ANNUAL CONVENTION**

The 2012 Annual convention will be held in Area I, hosted by Smokey Mountain Chapter 1420 (Waynesville area). Current plans are to hold the convention at Harrah's in Cherokee. The negotiated room rate is \$79.00 with free valet parking. Date for the Convention is set for May 9-11, 2012. Thank you Chapter 1420 for taking the lead in this effort and as planning gets underway, let us know how we can support the effort.

**URGENT MESSAGE FROM NARFE PRESIDENT**

As valuable as NARFE magazine is in keeping members informed, we may find ourselves in crisis mode at times in the days ahead. It is more important now than ever that we have immediate access to our grass-roots legislative activists. To do this, we need the email addresses of as many members as possible. Please consider supplying your address to NARFE HQ so that we can alert you to fast-breaking news on the legislative front and provide information on how you can assist in protecting your benefits and retirement security. To add your email address to your membership record, go to [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org); sign in as a member; then click on "Join GEMS" in the left panel on the Members Home Page; or call Member Records at 800-456-8410. Joseph A. Beaudoin, National President, NARFE.

**NARFE PICNIC BASKETS**

For our picnic this year, which is sponsored by our chapter at Lake Julian, we would again like to raffle off several baskets of various themes to raise funds for the Alzheimer Association. The themes could include the following:

1. coffees and/or teas
2. games, such as puzzles, Sudoku, cards, etc.
3. bird feeder items: handbook, suet, seeds, etc.
4. desk items: paper clips, white out, masking tape, stationery, scotch tape, pens, etc.
5. snacks - not too large packages, please
6. gardening: gloves, small spades, books, seeds, etc.
7. gift wrapping items: scotch tape, cards, bows, stamps, stickers, pens, etc.

Sabine Dieringer, Donna Habermann and Sandy Rumsey will coordinate these baskets. Once we get the baskets together, there will be a list of what each basket holds and a bag which will hold the raffle tickets that you will purchase to receive that basket. Now for the fun stuff! We would like to solicit any of the items mentioned above or anything else that you may have in your possession that could be used given the themes or one of your own that is practical and please make sure these items are new and not too big. Once we find out how much we have, we will purchase the rest to fill the baskets using NARFE funds which of course will be replenished after the raffle. Soooo, please check your supplies and let Sabine (236-0080) or Sandy (658-2131) or Donna (667-5705) know

where these items could be picked up or brought to the next meeting or bring a full basket to the picnic. Thank you and I know this will be a successful way to raise funds for a very worthwhile cause. Sabine Dieringer, Public Relations Officer

**BENEVOLENCE REPORT FOR APRIL 2011**

New or Reinstated Chapter Members: We welcome the following folks:

- Margaret Golden                      Earl Greene
- Angela Mallonee

Please join us at our chapter meetings announced in our newsletter.

Members that decided to drop their membership:

- Walter Adamson                      James Bradley
- Jim Mayo                              Margaret Parker
- Dorothy Sellers                      Henry Stauffer
- Judith White

We ask any member acquainted with these folks to give them a call and encourage them to reinstate their membership. They are as important to us and to NARFE as NARFE is to them.

Members Passed Away:

- Edward Piper

We offer prayers for the family of the deceased. We will miss him in our NARFE community.

**SILENT AUCTION – JUNE MEETING**

We will have four items for your consideration/bidding at the June meeting. First four fabulous signed prints at buyer's choice. That is, all four will be on display, but the bid price is the price for one print. Next a circa 1950's art deco clock; the Jefferson Golden Hour mystery clock. The hands appear suspended in space with no connection to a power source. Plus the clock is gold plated with 24Kt pure gold.

Also available will be two beautiful silver compotes that will enhance any dining table. Finally a bottle of Danish Akavit (Aqua Vita in Latin) a favorite potable in Scandinavia rumored to cure all manner of ailments. No medical claims are made for this bottle, but life expectancy in Denmark is 78.3 years vice 75.5 in the USA.

Any questions to Tom Beatty, at 828.298.6161 or [tkbpop@yahoo.com](mailto:tkbpop@yahoo.com).

**COFFEE CLUSTER (NORTH)**

The Northside Cluster will meet at Baba's Kitchen (formerly Wayne's Restaurant), 1469 Merrimon Ave. on June 16th at 9:00 am. Drop in and stay in touch over a cup of coffee or maybe breakfast. Theron Rumsey (828-658-2131)

**COFFEE CLUSTER (EAST)**

The Eastside Cluster will meet Thursday, June 2, 2011 at the J&S Cafeteria, River Ridge Shopping Center, 11:00 am. Call Ted Mathis at 298-4400 for information.

**QUOTE**

"I think Congressmen should wear uniforms like NASCAR drivers, so we can identify their corporate sponsors".

Anonymous

**Deadline for the next newsletter – June 20, 2011**

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GROCE FUNERAL HOME AND ASHEVILLE QUICKPRINT FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT TO NARFE CHAPTER 156.

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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**NARFE**  
**CHAPTER NEWS**

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