



NARFE Sandhills Chapter 1895



US Congressman Howard Coble was sworn in as "Postmaster for a Day" Monday, May 1, 2006 by Jackson Springs Postmaster Nancy Burroughs. Mr. Coble served customers in the lobby and on the telephone from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM. Nancy, Jackson Springs Postmaster since March 2002, began her Civil Service career in 1983 and joined Sandhills Chapter 1895 in 2004.



(From article published in the Richmond County Daily Journal)

Marjorie and Clarence Martin have been assisting the Richmond County Council on Aging for over 21 years by providing transportation to those in need. As the Transportation Coordinator, Clarence works on a call basis from that office.

When out-of-town day trips are made for groups from the Rockingham Senior Center, he drives a rented van. Marjorie becomes involved when Clarence cannot meet the demands on any one day.

Clarence is secretary-treasurer of his Sunday school class.

Both Marjorie and Clarence have driven school buses for Roberdel Children's Center in the past.

Clarence, a tenor, sings with the East Rockingham Men's Chorus, which he has sung for the past ten years.

The Martin's have been members in NARFE since August 1979. Clarence is the chapter's Service Officer.

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Sandhills Chapter 1895 News



**Frank West,
Program
Chair**

Frank West, Program Chair, passed away Thursday, June 15, 2006. His passing will leave a void in Chapter 1895 because Frank was very active throughout his years as a member of NARFE, serving in many roles, his latest as Program Chair & E-mail Coordinator. He joined NARFE July 1979. Frank, always diligent, submitted the following article to the editor on June 6th.

In April, Scot Brooks, Director of Public Safety for Moore County spoke about the services Public Safety provides to almost 80,000 citizens spread over 700+ square miles. The Department of Emergency Medical Services, E911 Communications Center, Fire Marshall's Office and all county emergency management activities are the responsibility of Public Safety. Scot is also a member of a North Carolina



**Scot Brooks, Director
Public Safety**

Task Force that provides regional and state-wide responses to incidents involving land search and rescue, swift water rescue, confined space rescue and trench rescue. In a 911 medical emergency both a Rescue Squad ambulance and a EMS ambulance will probably come to your aid. They assess the distressed person's symptoms and decide which ambulance will provide necessary transportation.

In May, Clara Bryson, Supervisor for the Moore County Library System. The Moore County Library System has five libraries and a bookmobile, and is a member of the five county Sandhills Regional Library System. Without question, Clara is one of the premier storytellers in North Carolina. Her presentation was both educational and humorous the Library has both Heritage Quest and Ancestry.com, for genealogists. Ancestry.com can be accessed only on the Library computers.



**Clara Bryson, Moore
County Library**



**George LeVander,
Chair**

Membership Chair: Your Membership Committee has been successful in getting NARFE material into every facility in our area that has federal employees. As members arrive for monthly chapter meetings we have name tags available so we know who you are. Henry Seufert gets these names

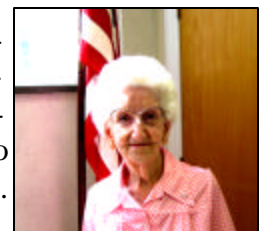
from the sign in sheets each month – be sure you sign in by your printed name so that our chapter has a record of your attendance. Henry can make you a name tag if he doesn't already have one made.

Chapter attendance is not what it should be so if you have any suggestions you think would help, please pass them on to any officer. We realize many of you cannot attend on a regular monthly basis but we urge you to come when you can. Frank West, Program Chair, has been very successful in getting interesting speakers to speak about topics of importance to us as federal employees and retirees, as well as senior citizens. You are the loser if you don't make it to our meetings. Wherever you are, do promote NARFE.

Welcome to our new members, we are very happy to have you. To all our members – hang with us, we have many battles ahead. To anyone thinking about not renewing your membership; think hard about what you are getting for \$33.00 a year and what NARFE has already done for you and will continue to protect our earned benefits. Nuf sed.

Those who enjoy responsibility usually get it; those who merely like exercising authority usually lose it.
Malcolm Forbes

Chaplain's Note: We appreciate everything our active members do for NARFE and encourage inactive members to come to meetings and share their ideas. Thank you.



**Rosetta Smothers,
Chapter Chaplain**

Sandhills Chapter 1895 News

50th Annual Federation Convention, Asheville, NC May 3-5, 2006



Pictured above: Sandhills Chapter 1895 Delegates: Front row, left to right: Marjorie Martin, Julina LeVander; back row: Clarence Martin, Vilma Geisert, Lloyd Geisert, George LeVander, Judith and Paul Sams. Attending as a delegate but missing from photo is Henry Seufert.



Enjoying the banquet: Clarence Martin, Marjorie Martin, George LeVander, Julina LeVander, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Patton (Mr. Patton is the Federation Parliamentarian) Henry Seufert and Vilma Geisert (missing is Lloyd Geisert who took the photo).



**Henry Seufert,
Treasurer**

Treasure Chest: We are at the Half-Year mark and we have 140 members who have paid up their dues already. There are a few of our former members who have decided to drop by NOT paying the ANNUAL DUES. Are you one who has forgotten? Maybe you still have the NARFE Magazine around the house with the coupon to forward your dues. Please clip it, attach your check, send it to NARFE National, 606 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA. 22314.

For about \$3.00 a month you get all the benefits which include the Monthly NARFE Magazine. Just look at the topics covered in the past four months in detail: July-Living Wills; April-How to Remodel your living space; December-Detail on Genealogy and how to start your Family Story; February-How to visit the Great Southwest on Vacation and where to go. All for only \$3.00 a month. This does not include the "Narfe Perks" information on how to SAVE money traveling, Rent a Car, Move to a new area; Insurance, Emergency Services and Credit accounts.

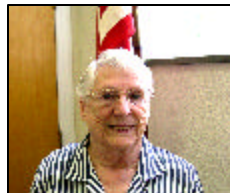
As your Treasurer of the local Chapter, I make use of all these PERKS. Why not continue to be with us.



**Ed Klingenschmidt,
Telephone Tree
Coordinator**

Telephone Tree News: I realize I've asked members, in previous newsletters to contact me when they know of a chapter member passing away. Although I review the newspaper daily, please understand I may not recognize a member's name, as our chapter has over 170 members.

If you become aware of a member passing away please contact any officer or myself. We want to acknowledge this appropriately, as well as have the Chapter Service Officer provide assistance to the member's survivor, by facilitating important documents and providing important contact numbers for this life event. Telephone numbers of our chapter officers are inside of the back page of this newsletter. I can be reached at **(910) 692-2527**.



**Louise Klabbatz,
Sunshine Chair**

Sunshine Notes: During the past 3 months three cards, two condolences to families of Elsie Parker and Virginia Bailey. A get well card was sent to C.G. Boyte, Jr. We wish him a quick recovery.

I again request our members to notify me when they learn of another member's illness. Our chapter can send a timely card, wishing them well. My phone is **(910) 944-7900**. Thank you.

Kindness is the one commodity of which you should spend more than you earn.

T. N. Tiemeyer

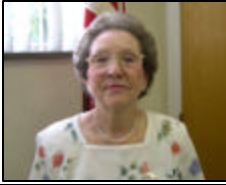


**Paul Sams,
Legislative
Officer**

**HEADLINES IN USA TODAY
ON THURSDAY MAY 25TH**

"Retiree benefits grow into monster", the article goes on to say that retiree benefits amount to \$510,678.00 taxpayer burden to every family in America. It went on to say "taxpayers owe more than a half million dollars per household for financial promises

made by government, mostly to cover the cost of retirement benefits for baby boomers." It will be imperative in the near future to keep in contact with our congressman and two senators about protecting what we have earned and are getting now than to try and get anything else passed in congress. The public will get in an uproar about these numbers and we are going to stay focused on the mission at hand. Protection of our earned benefits. Keep in contact with elected officials and let them know we are concerned. Other than that Blue Cross and Blue Shield has petitioned to have Medical Savings Account put in the FEHBP program, something else we have to look at and voice our opposition. Keep up the good work.



**Julina LeVander,
Alzheimer's
Fund Chair**

Fund Progress: Our monthly raffle of donated items by our members continues to be successful as well as a source of a lot of fun. We are slowly but surely closing in on \$9,000.00 for Alzheimer's Research in our chapter, and \$7 million nationally.

Progress is being made to combat this dread disease. Thanks to those who give items to raffle (keep it up), thanks to those who purchase the \$1.00 raffle tickets each month at the meeting, and thanks to those who have sent in contributions who are unable to attend our chapter meetings.

Members desiring to make a contribution can mail a check to Henry Seufert, Treasurer at 535 Hill Road, Southern Pines, NC 28387 and indicate that it is for Alzheimer's. Make your check payable to NARFE Sandhills Chapter 1895.

Donations of a variety of gifts including packages of cookies, candy, tea, cereals, potato chips, jars of jam, pickles, beans, nuts, coffee, books, and other miscellaneous items including homemade pecan pie, cash were contributed by:

April 2006: Klabbatzs, Seufert, LeVanders, Geiserts, Beasley, Winnies, Klingenschmidt, Maddreys, Smothers, and West.

May 2006: Beasley, LeVanders, Geiserts, Klabbatzs, McLeod, Winnies, Seufert, Smothers, West.

June 2006: LeVanders, Smother, Beasley, Winnies, Maddreys, Geiserts, West.

April 10th Chapter Meeting recap: The regular business meeting of the Sandhills Chapter of NARFE met on Monday, April 10th, 2006, at the Community Congressional Church, 141 N. Bennett St, Southern Pines. Twenty three chapter members were in attendance.

President Geisert extended a warm welcome to returning members Lila Miller, Gerald (Andy) Anderson and his guest Marylou Powell.

Legislative Officer - Paul Sams: The majority of chapter members failed to contact their legislators about repeal of Social Security-GPO and WEP (Senate Bill S.619 and House version H.R. 147), and express to their legislators to endorse Premium Conversion (S.484 & H.R. 994). To reach the Capitol switch board: 1-866-220-0044, ask to be connected to your representative. Paul stated the national deficit continues to overshadow many of the proposed benefit issues peculiar to FedRetirees.

Membership - Vice-President/Membership Chair George LeVander: The team continues to place NARFE posters in local and state government offices, and Post Offices, in Moore County and the city of Rockingham. Programs - Frank West: Guest speaker for May 8th will be Ms. Clara Bryson, Moore County Library Supervisor. Alzheimer's Chapter Raffle Julina LeVander: encouraged continued support by the members donating gifts monthly and purchasing raffle tickets. Telephone Tree - Ed Klingenschmidt: asked for a current Chapter data base printout to update his membership telephone list. Sunshine Program - Louise Klabbitz: no activity for the month. .

The membership was reminded that at years end, our quarterly eating meeting agreement with DAY'S INN will expire. She appointed Frank West and Paul Sams to conduct market analysis of local eating establishments and report back to the membership by October. Items of consideration: dining site should be able to provide privacy for 25 -30 members and a small group of entertainers meeting quarterly, easy access, quick efficient service or buffet style at a reasonable cost. DAY'S INN presently provides a private room; large room with dance floor available, upon request, at no charge for accommodations. Luncheon buffet cost \$11.50 which includes tax and gratuity.

Upcoming Event

September 10-14, 2006

**29th NARFE National
Convention
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

For information refer to your copy of NARFE Retirement Life magazine or www.narfe.org website

Sandhills Chapter 1895 News

May 8th Chapter Meeting Recap: The regular business meeting of NARFE, Sandhills Chapter 1895 met on Monday, May 8th, 2006, at the Community Congressional Church, 141 N. Bennett St, Southern Pines, NC. Twenty three chapter members were in attendance.

President Geisert extended an opportunity to the delegates, who attended the Federation Convention in Asheville to brief the membership on significant points they felt were of interest. George LeVander, Paul Sams, Clarence Martin, Henry Seufert unanimously agreed the convention was well orchestrated, with well defined one hour training modules in Parliamentary Procedures, Recruiting & Retention, Legislative Procedures and accessing the NARFE Website. George further commented on a motion made by Paul Carew, NC Federation VP, to restore \$0.25 to chapter dues thereby increasing dues from \$4.00 to \$4.25 per year per member. The motion was soundly defeated.

Legislative Officer - Paul Sams: two mandates will be brought forward for vote at the 2006 National Convention. First; "Mandatory Chapter Membership". This means any federal active employee, retiree, and/or spouse recruited into NARFE must elect membership in a local (dues paying) Chapter for one year. Thereafter, the member may opt membership to National only, (no chapter dues and no meetings). The second mandate, the democratic rule, will focus on the "one member one vote" concept. Ballots will be mailed to the membership wherein we'll have the opportunity to make a choice, indicate our preference and return our ballot to an auditor. This concept gives a voice to all NARFE members, no longer requiring delegates to proxy membership votes. Paul stated again that our most pressing Congressional issues that effects most Federal retirees are concerns regarding repeal of Social Security-GPO and WEP (Senate Bill S.619 and House version H.R. 147), and we must express to our legislators to endorse Premium Conversion (S.484 & H.R. 994).

Membership - Vice-President/Membership Chair George LeVander: mailed welcoming letters to two new members, and mailed letters to 10 members who failed to renew membership. Telephone Tree - Ed Klingenschmidt: Added two new members to the telephone tree.

Continued on top of next column

May 8th Meeting Recap: continued

Editor: Vilma reminded the membership, especially committee chairs, of their news articles to be published, and to keep in mind articles should cover the 3 months since publication of the last newsletter. News articles should be mailed to her NLT June 20th

Delegates attending the 2006 Federation convention should give their name to Henry Seufert, if they desire reimbursement of the registration fee. Paul Sams, Vilma & Lloyd Geisert declined reimbursement.

June 12th Chapter Meeting Recap: The regular business meeting of the Sandhills Chapter of NARFE met on Monday, June 13th, 2006, at DAY'S INN, Morganton Rd & US Rt #1, Southern Pines, NC. Twenty two chapter members were in attendance.

President Geisert extended a welcome to Shirley Moser, transferring into Chapter 1896 from the Fayetteville Chapter and to returning chapter member George Broderick.

Legislative Report. Paul Sams; The important issues we discussed at previous chapter meetings are the same viable concerns for all of us today. We must guard against complacency believing someone else is looking out for our interest. They are not! Don't lose sight of those Congressional issues that effect most Federal retirees, repeal of Social Security-GPO and WEP (Senate Bill S.619 and House version H.R. 147). It is our personal mandate to express to our legislators that we want them to endorse Premium Conversion (S.484 & H.R. 994). On another front, OPM continues to advocate BlueCross/Blue Shield (BC/BS) medical savings. If passed, this Bill could have the effect of additional deductions from our retirement annuity, of which that amount would be placed in an individual medical savings account in our name. This may be an acceptable solution for younger federal workers, but may have an unfavorable impact on retirees.

Membership. George LeVander, Chair reported he has written letters to several members urging them to reconsider their lapsed membership in

Continued on bottom of page 7

Sandhills Chapter 1895 News



**Vilma Geisert,
Chapter
President**

President's Message: Our members are amazing, those regularly attending our monthly meetings. Regardless of ailments or setbacks during the weeks or days preceding the meeting, they manage to come through the door, smiling, in good humor and glad to see their friends whom they've missed since the last chapter meeting. People are wonderful. The remaining 150 chapter members depend on this nucleus of 20-25 active members to save their benefits, and strive for additional benefits, on their behalf. Hard to believe, isn't it. This nucleus of 20-25 members has held this chapter together for many more years than I know, since I'm relatively new, having joined in 2003. This nucleus has been the heart beat of the chapter.

We all know how vital the heart is, but we also know, the heart and other organs all depend on each other. So it is with this organization. Our chapter, to survive, needs more than a 20-25 active member nucleus. Our meetings are lively, interesting and we do have light moments and enjoy each other.

Being a member is good, but is not enough. Be willing to hold an office and/or chair a committee. Be active! Be interested! Each and every one of us is responsible for saving our benefits. Yes, some are physically unable to attend chapter meetings, but most, fortunately, are able to attend. It's only an **hour and a half** (1 1/2 hours) out of your entire month of 720 hours (not counting months with 31 days). When you think about it, we spend more time taking showers or talking on the phone during the month. If you have time for other activities, and organizations then consciously make enough time for chapter meetings. ***Remember, AARP, golf, clubs, and other volunteer organizations do not speak up for your retirement benefits...only only NARFE fights for your benefits!***

We are all at a crossroad of economic austerity. The threat of watering down or losing our benefits, is very real, just read the papers! The costs of our benefits are in competition with catastrophic events in our country.

Continued on top of next column

Yes, war on terrorism is important, hurricane relief is important, and helping our neighbors in this in other countries is important. We must make our leadership clearly realize that our benefits are very important to us. Our benefits cannot be sacrificed because of these costly pressing world issues.

How do we make our point? By visiting/telephoning/e-mailing/writing our representatives in government; by not relying on others to do your share. This is not difficult. Come to chapter meetings and learn how you can effectively encourage positive action o those who can do something about it, your government representatives! As a unified group, we can work toward this common goal. The time is here, folks. Can you really afford to wait?

Take a minute right now; **circle the 2nd Monday of every month....Chapter meeting dates, 10:30 am—12:00 noon, at the Community Congregation Church, 141 N. Bennett Street, Southern Pines. During the months of March, June, September and December we have our 'eating meetings' at 11:00 am –12:30 pm at the DAY's INN (former Holiday Inn), Rte 1 and Morganton Road, Southern Pines, instead of at the Community Congregation church.**

June 12th Chapter Meeting Recap: Continued from page 6: NARFE, and provided guidance to new members planning to join and/or transfer into our chapter. He suggested the membership consider joining NARFE PAC. NARFE PAC is a paid lobbying action group in Washington that acts in the interest of NARFE by promoting our concerns to our elected officials. The method by which members can contribute to NARFEPAC may be found in the NARFE magazine and George encouraged the membership to seriously consider this option.

Henry Seufert reported \$141.00 of collected funds be sent to the Alzheimer Research. A motion was made and approved to send \$141.00 to Alzheimer Research.

Member's Page

Important for chapter members to attend the July and August meetings to voice your voting preferences to the delegates attending the Albuquerque Convention—time is short.

The following important information was extracted from an e-mail **GEMS** message received June 6, 2006.

The 2006 Convention in Albuquerque will give delegates the opportunity to decide several major organizational questions or issues.

1. Mandatory Chapter Membership
2. One Member – One Vote.
3. Single Dues
4. Supplementing Life Membership by the general fund.
5. Spousal Dues and the list goes on.

Your national convention delegates and chapter president will receive a booklet containing resolutions for the 2006 convention at Albuquerque.

You can download it from the National NARFE WEB site now by clicking on the National Convention illustration on the Home Page of the WEB Site and then select Resolutions.

I would further recommend that you instruct your delegates and proxy holders so that your opinion is expressed in Albuquerque.

This is a critical time for NARFE. Be sure that your voice is heard concerning our future.

Newsletter Editor's note: The referenced booklet, above, available on the website in .PDF is 215 pages in length and can be downloaded or printed

Weekly legislative message is posted for NARFE members

A weekly legislative message is available to telephone callers (703) 838-7780 and toll free at 1-877-217-8234), posted for members on NARFE's Internet site, www.narfe.org, and broadcast to GEMS e-mail addresses (now over 50,000). This policy allows each registered e-mail addressee to choose to read each message, delete each or pick and choose. Each delivery device is a service of the NARFE, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:*********

We ask those who have not renewed their membership to please reconsider, and contact one of the Membership Team below:

George LeVander(910) 895-9657
Julina LeVander.....(910) 895-9657
Peter Feeney(910) 695-1554
Henry Seufert(910) 692-6466
Dale Streicker.....(910) 944-3999

HAIL & FAREWELL**Members Transferred In, Reinstated or New**

Blake, Ms. Linda H., Troy, NC
 Caviness, John, Whispering Pines, NC
 Heimrick, Frederick, Pinehurst, NC
 Heimrick, Rose, Pinehurst, NC
 Mahan, John, J., Pinehurst, NC

Members Sent 2nd Notices

Berry, Frank K., Southern Pines, NC
 Brodrick, George W., Southern Pines, NC
 Herbert, Henry U., Cary, NC
 Locklair, TS, Whispering Pines, NC
 McAdoo, Joyce D., Pinehurst, NC
 Rodgers, William A., Carlisle, PA
 Womack, Emma, Carthage, NC
 Woodard, Joseph R., Southern Pines, NC

Members Transferred/Moved

Anderson-Taplett, Pam, Sarasota, FL

Dropped for Non-Renewal:

Dietrich, Ross A.,
 Gulley, Oscar G., Southern Pines, NC
 Muller, Donald S., Pinehurst, NC
 Rogers, Deborah P., Pinehurst, NC

Passed Away:

Bailey, Virginia, Southern Pines, NC
 West, Franklin E., Whispering Pines, NC

2006 NARFE Sandhills Chapter 1895 Officers

President	Vilma Geisert	(910) 215-5898
Vice President	George LeVander	(910) 895-9657
Secretary	Lloyd Geisert	(910) 215-5898
Treasurer	Henry Seufert	(910) 692-6466
Legislative Officer	Paul Sams	(910) 949-3357
Editor	Vilma Geisert	(910) 215-5898
Membership	George LeVander	(910) 895-9657
Service Officer	Clarence Martin	(910) 582-4310
Public Relations	Lloyd Geisert	(910) 215-5898
Programs	Vacant	
Alzheimer's Fund	Julina LeVander	(910) 895-9657
Chaplin	Rosetta Smothers	(910) 692-1124
Telephone Tree	Edgar Klingenschmidt	(910) 692-2527
Sunshine Program	Louise Klabbatz	(910) 944-7900
E-mail Coordinator	Vacant	

National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE)



Sandhills Chapter 1895
V. Geisert, Editor/Publisher
PO Box 2393
Southern Pines, NC 28388



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How do you want your delegates to vote at the National Convention in Albuquerque, NM September 10-14, 2006? Your attendance at the July 10th and August 14th Chapter meetings is important

Meeting: 2nd Monday of each month

Jul. 10th, 2006 10:30-Noon, Community Congregational Church, 141 N. Bennett St., So. Pines

Aug. 14th, 2006 10:30-Noon Community Congregational Church 141 N. Bennett St. So. Pines

Sep. 11th, 2006 11:00-12:30 PM DAYS Inn (Holiday Inn) Morganton Rd & Hwy 1, So. Pines

NARFE—Your future—Our focus!