

National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE)



NARFE Sandhills Chapter 1895



Left to right: North Carolina Federation of Chapters President Tom Hobgood administers oath of office to 2007 Chapter 1895 officers at the December 11th monthly meeting: President Lloyd Geisert, Secretary Nancy Sandoval, Treasurer Shirley Moser, and Vice President Paul Sams.

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2007 N. C. Federation Convention

May 1—3, 2007

Greenville, North Carolina

City Hotel & Bistro
203 West Greenville Boulevard
Greenville, NC 27834
1-877-271-2616

Sandhills Chapter 1895 News



**George LeVander, VP
and Membership
Chair**

Membership Chair Report: The membership committee continues to contact members who have not renewed their membership and to welcome new members. We run late on these things because the printout from National is a month behind in sending the names to us. You join the chapter this month, National

sends out a report next month with your name on it, so this way we are late.

We urge every member to stay with us; we have won some battles but the war still rages, so we need your help for the battles we in which we are involved, and those in the future. Attend our chapter meetings, meet fellow federal retirees from all areas of federal service, and stay up to date on all that is taking place that effects all of us, active and retired federal employees.



**Paul Sams, Chapter
Legislative Officer**

Legislative Report: we have a good opportunity to push for Premium Conversion with the new congress but with our Congressman Howard Coble being a Republican and the Democrats having control of the house we might not have as good of an "in" with him as we did last year. We are still working on the State Legislature bill giving the same tax benefits that we

received from the Bailey, Emory Patton settlement to the current federal, state and local workers, I will let you all know when the bill is introduced in the house and we can contact our Representative Joe Boylan, in fact if any of you know Joe you could call him and remind him that he said he would support the same tax laws for everyone. Will let everyone know of any change in our National Legislative agenda. Enjoy your 3.3% cola for 2007.

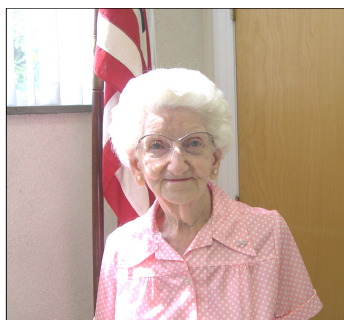


**Shirley Moser-
Program Chair**

Welcome back, Shirley! Shirley is recovering from recent surgery. It was wonderful to see her at our December meeting. Shirley was the 2006 Chapter Program Chair and will be the Treasurer beginning January 2007

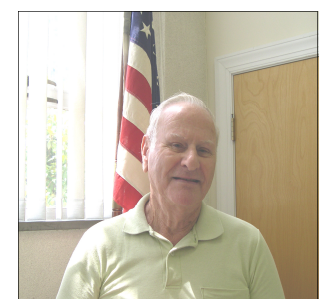
Nancy Sandoval assisted as Co-Chair in Shirley's absence. Nancy will be the

Chapter Secretary for 2007. Thank you Nancy!



**Rossetta Smothers
Chaplin**

Chaplin's note: We encourage all Federal current employees and retirees to attend the monthly NARFE meetings and become members. You will have the opportunity to present new ideas. You will enjoy the fellowship. We look forward to seeing you. Thank you.



**Ed Klingenschmidt-
Telephone Tree
Coordinator**

Important Message to chapter members who have lists of names to call when the telephone tree is initiated to contact members: If you move, and your telephone number changes, please notify me of your new number so I can contact you. Also, it would help if each member who gets a new roster would check their own phone number for accuracy, and let me

know of changes.

I have found several numbers that are not correct. Please contact me at (910) 692-2527. Thank you.

Sandhills Chapter 1895 News



**Louise Klabbatz-
Sunshine Chair**

Chapter member concern: Get Well cards were sent to Iona Eppell, Shirley Moser and Darla Davis.

'Thinking of You' cards were sent to Ilene Vinal and Rosetta Smothers.

'Sympathy' cards were sent to Leatrice Beasley and the Robert Capps family.

Leatrice lost her son-in-law, and Robert Capps passed away in a nursing home.

October meeting recap: The regular business meeting of the Sandhills Chapter of NARFE met on Monday, October 9th, 2006, at the Community Congregational Church, 141 N. Bennett St, Southern Pines, NC. There were 15 in attendance.

Legislative: Paul Sams; The issues we are all concerned with remain status quo. Cost of living (COLA) will represent about 3% increase beginning January 2007. Paul provided a brief synopsis of the events that occurred during the 06 National Convention, Albuquerque, NM. .

Membership: . There was one transfer into our chapter, Ms. Margaret Colledge. **Programs:** Shirley Moser; An invitation will be extended to Mr. Doug Kirk of the Shriners to be our guest speaker for the November meeting. Pete Feeney suggested that at some point in the future we consider a person to speak about probating wills which would be of special interest to our members. **Public Relations:** Lloyd Geisert; The Moore County Independent Newspaper has been added to our list of Regional Newspapers that will publish our monthly meeting notice. This makes a total of seven publications in Moore, and surrounding counties, that provide this advertising service. **Sunshine Program:** Louise Klabbatz; Louise reported Ken Vinal has been admitted to Kingwood Nursing Home for care.

October program: Ms. Marian Hartsell, Historian with Moore County Historical Association, provided a chronological review of recorded events leading to the earliest beginnings in Moore County in 1774, it's architects, and family names who's prominence remain historically significant to Moore County to present day.



**Marian Hartsell,
Historian**

November program: William (Buck) Kirk and Thomas Shaylor , Shriners of the Oasis Shrine Temple presented a program about the Shriner's Children Hospitals, where children are provided medical care, surgery, rehabilitation and consultations without cost to the patient or family.



Speakers William Kirk & Thomas Shaylor, with chapter member Harry Klabbatz in the center.

December program: Ms. Shirley Reardon, accompanied by Ms. Mary Margaret McNeill, of Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church hand bell choir in Southern Pines performed a medley of Christmas carols to the sound of bells.



Left to right: Mary Margaret McNeill accompanying Shirley Reardon performing on hand bells



Henry Seufert,
Treasurer

The last of the Dues Reports from Narfe National totaled dues paid for 170 members. This is close to the 180 members of Chapter 1895. The Total Dues received are \$1,693.43. These dues are for both Chapter 1895 and for the NC Federation. The NC Federation was paid \$680 at the rate of \$4.00 a member paid.

The Treasurer for the following year will be Shirley Moser. I have appreciated the opportunity to serve the Chapter for the past 21 months. I appreciate all the help I have received from the Chapters Officers and the Membership, Federation Treasurer Bill Ritchie and State officers. I attended the NC State Convention in Ashville and participated in the discussions on the duties of the Treasurer.



Julina LeVander,
Chapter Alzheimer's
Chair

First off I want to thank each of you who are supporting Alzheimer's Research by donating gifts and buying raffle tickets each month. The reports I'm seeing in the papers and on TV indicates progress is being slowly made in finding a cure for this dreaded disease—there seems to be some ray of light at the end of the tunnel.

There is not a person, who reads this, who does not know someone with this malady and how it effects them and their families. Our Chapter has done real well in it's support and nationally we are closing in on 7 million dollars. A tidy sum for research. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

We just lost a chapter member, Robert C. 'Billy' Capps, who had developed Alzheimers.

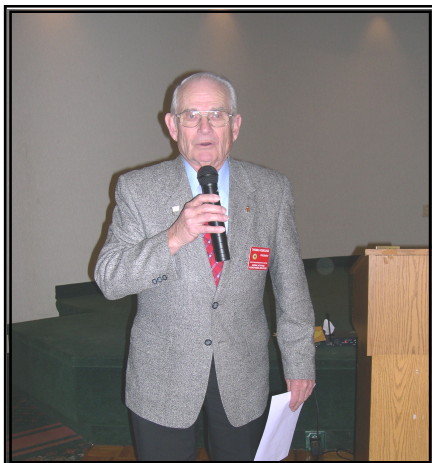
As members arrived at the meetings they donated small grocery items and other small miscellaneous items for the raffle table in October, November and December. Raffle tickets purchased for the drawing netted:

October \$38.00, November \$58.00 and December \$66.00

November Meeting Recap: The regular business meeting of the Sandhills Chapter of NARFE met at the Community Congregational Church, 141 N. Bennett Street in Southern Pines. There were 24 in attendance.

Legislative: Paul Sams; The last NARFE GEMS reported the transition of both Houses from Republican to Democrat control; cost of living (COLA) will represent about 3.3% increase beginning January 2007; his association with the Federal Retiree Task Force reveals Federal workers employed by the government after August 13th 1984 are not covered under the Bailey-Emory-Patton Act and as such are required to pay state taxes on their annuity; employees accumulating 5 years tenure in Federal employment by August 12th 1989 pay no state taxes on their annuity; Task Force is diligently working with the state legislature to overcome the inequity and affect legislation that will bring equity to those Federal employees who must pay taxes on their annuity; nationally, GPO and WEP appears stuck on Capitol Hill with no relief in sight for the remainder of this Republican Congress, which ends January 2007; both bills will have to be reintroduced under the Democratic leadership. **Membership:** George LeVander continues to send letters to members who have received second notices of delinquent dues, encouraging them to maintain enrollment in NARFE. **Programs:** Shirley Moser; Presently, Shirley is convalescing from hip surgery and will most likely return in January. Nancy Sandoval is Programs Co-Chair. Vilma stressed cooperation is needed from the membership to help identify guest speakers who are willing to speak for 20-25 minutes on issues within their personal and/or professional expertise. **Telephone Tree:** Ed Klingenschmidt; Nell Winnie agreed to take a list of telephone numbers to call in the event of emergency and/or expedite communication within the chapter. **Sunshine Program:** Louise Klabbitz; Ken Vinal is doing well and has returned to his home where he continues to recuperate. **Public Relations:** Lloyd Geisert reported in the October meeting that Days Inn has contracted with our chapter to host quarterly eating meetings for the operating year 2007 and no increase in meal prices.

.Continued on page 6



Tom Hobgood, NC Federation President



Chapter members enjoying good food and fellowship



Chapter members and guests enjoying the festivities



Julina LeVander, Chapter Alzheimer's Chair arranging donations of items for the monthly raffle



Shirley Reardon performing with handbells.

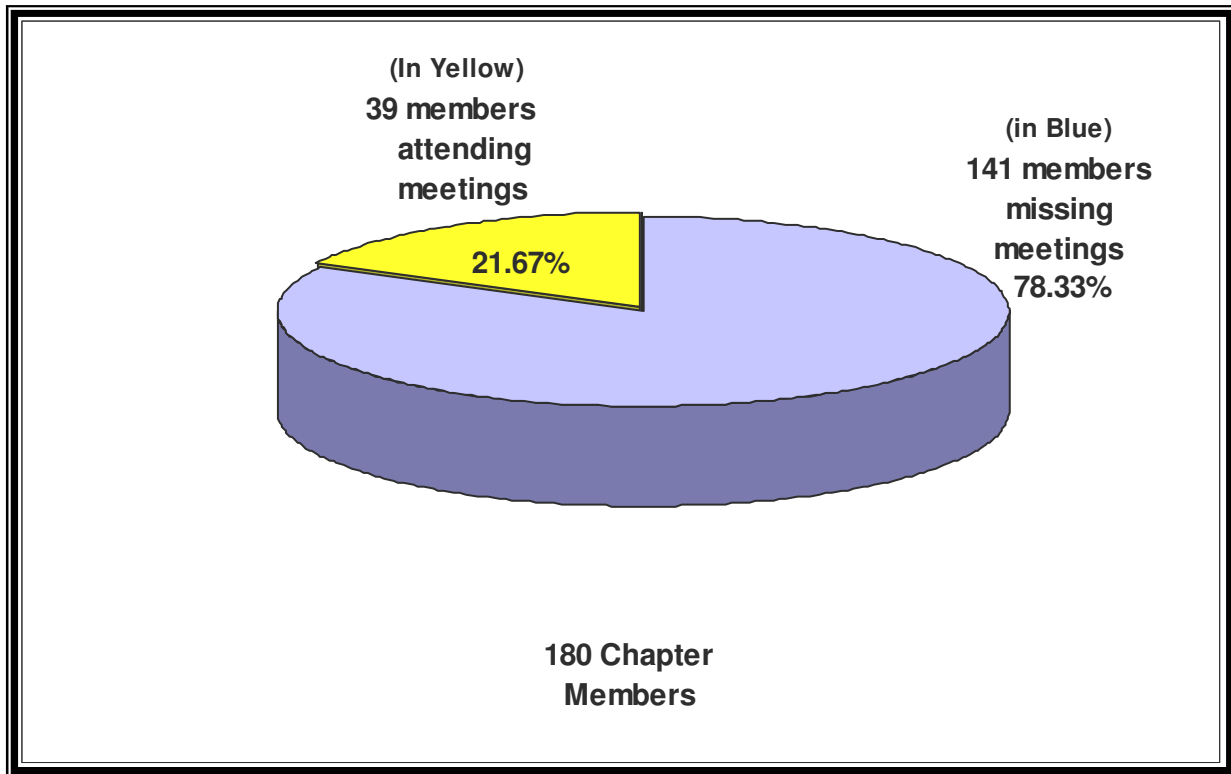


Chapter members relaxing after a good meal, entertainment and enjoying each others company.

Sandhills Chapter 1895 News

Sandhills Chapter 1895 Member Localities	Zip Codes	# of Members	***# Attend Meetings	% Attending
Briscoe, Candor, Jackson Sprgs, Troy, Star, West End	27209, 27229 27281, 27356 and 27376	27	3	11.11%
Greensboro, Cary and Four Oaks	27410, 27511 and 27524	5	0	0.00%
Aberdeen	28315	8	5	62.50%
Cameron, Carthage & Whispering Pines	28326 and 28327	18	7	38.89%
Ellerbe, Lakeview Lumberton & Pinebluff	28338, 28350, 28360 & 28373	3	3	100.00%
Pinehurst	28370 & 28374	57	9	15.79%
Raeford	28376	2	0	0.00%
Hamlet, Rockingham	28345 & 28379	11	4	36.36%
Brevard, Southern Pines, Vass and Spring Lake	28387, 88, 90 and 28712	42	8	19.05%
Out of State		7	0	0.00%
TOTALS: Chapter	(membership)	180	39	21.67%
<i>***attended one or more chapter meetings in 2006</i>				

Sandhills Chapter 1895 News



Sandhills Chapter 1895 President's Message—It's all in the figures: The page on the left shows our chapter membership by zip code. The page also shows attendance for 2006 by zip code. The pie chart above shows the same percentages.

A picture is worth a thousand words. How many missing members will get the message? How can a member just not care? Many of these same members cared enough when their annuity was being taxed, and NARFE fought vigilantly on The Hill to exempt the annuities from being taxed. Once refunds were received, and everyone was feeling warm and fuzzy, very comfortable that their money was once again nestled in their pockets, members left their chapters dying on the vine. Well guess what folks, the fight is not over, matter of fact, we must regain our foothold, and it's tougher than ever (refer to Paul Sams remarks in November's minutes on page 4).

There's a saying 'pay me now or pay me later'. Our benefits are being threatened. We've all read in newspapers about deteriorating benefits in the private sector. It's happening, and it is too close for comfort. Yes, numbers mean a lot, especially on The Hill. The stronger we are, the more active we are, the better our chances in retaining what we have which is our major concern, at this time. It's your choice. Come to the meetings. Your benefits depend on your participation.

My sincere gratitude to officers, committee chairs, committees and members for their support and assistance during my presidency. Thank you. Vilma Geisert



**NORTH CAROLINA FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS
NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
51ST STATE FEDERATION CONVENTION
CO-HOSTED BY PITT COUNTY CHAPTER 1530 AND WASHINGTON CHAPTER 804
GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
MAY 1-3, 2007

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION

CHAPTER NO. _____ CHAPTER NAME: _____ LOCATION: _____

NAME: _____ ID# _____ PHONE: _____

(LAST) (FIRST) (MI)

ADDRESS: _____ CITY _____ STATE ____ ZIP _____

CIRCLE ONE: [DELEGATE] [ALTERNATE] [NC FED OFF] [NAT. OFF] [PAST PRES] [GUEST] [MEMBER]

IF SPOUSE WILL ATTEND PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

SPOUSE'S NAME: _____ ID# _____

(LAST) (FIRST) (MI)

SPOUSE: [DELEGATE] [ALTERNATE] [NC FED OFF] [NAT. OFF] [PAST PRES] [GUEST] [MEMBER]

CONVENTION FEE OPTIONS [SELECT FOR YOU AND SPOUSE]:

NUMBER TYPE OF REGISTRATION

() FULL REGISTRATION \$50.00 (INCL. BANQUET) _____ NUMBER OF VEGETARIAN MEALS

() REGISTRATION ONLY \$20.00

() BANQUET ONLY \$30.00 CHECK NO. _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

REGISTRATION FORMS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY APRIL 1, 2007 (LATE OR ON-SITE REGISTRATION EXTRA \$5.00) MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

2007 NARFE/NC FEDERATION CONVENTION AND MAIL TO:

ANN ELEANOR, 2007 CONVENTION TREASURER, 102 LINDENWOOD DRIVE, GREENVILLE, NC 27834

----- CUT HERE

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY APRIL 1, 2007 – LATE RESERVATIONS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

MAIL RESERVATION FORM DIRECTLY TO HOTEL AND INDICATE ON CHECK – "NARFE STATE CONVENTION." MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CITY HOTEL & BISTRO. PHONE RESERVATIONS – 1-877-271-2616 TOLL FREE.

**NORTH CAROLINA FEDERATION
NARFE CONVENTION**

MAY 1-3, 2007
CITY HOTEL & BISTRO
203 WEST GREENVILLE BOULEVARD
GREENVILLE, NC 27834
PHONE: 1-877-271-2616
WWW.CITYHOTELANDBISTRO.COM

\$75 PER NIGHT PLUS TAX, INCLUDES BREAKFAST BUFFET
(UP TO TWO PEOPLE IN A ROOM)

(DISABLED ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES)

DIRECTIONS

FROM RALEIGH:

TAKE 264 EAST TO WILSON, N.C. AND THEN TO GREENVILLE. COMING INTO GREENVILLE CITY LIMITS, TURN RIGHT AT THE 2ND STOPLIGHT ONTO 264 ALTERNATE (ALSO CALLED ALLEN ROAD). WE ARE 5 MILES FROM THE TURN ON THE RIGHT.

FROM NEW BERN:

TAKE 17 NORTH TO VANCEBORO, N.C. IN VANCEBORO, TAKE 43 EAST TO GREENVILLE. AT THE 3RD STOPLIGHT COMING INTO GREENVILLE (PLAZA MALL IS ON YOUR LEFT), TURN LEFT ONTO GREENVILLE BOULEVARD. WE ARE APPROXIMATELY 2 MILES ON THE LEFT.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____
ADDRESS: _____ CITY _____ STATE ____ ZIP _____
DATES YOU PLAN TO STAY _____
CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____
SIGNATURE _____

The greetings and article below were extracted from the NC Federation of Chapters website:

Happy Holidays to you and your family

During this season when we gather around the kitchen table and reminisce about the past, please keep our soldiers in your hearts. They are a long way from home and in such a different environment – a word from home will help them maintain a focus on home. So often our worries and troubles seem large but in comparison to what our service men and women face each day on the battlefields around the world, they seem much less important.

While the Federation has no organized donation program for those in need at this time of the year, I know that individual chapters do support many worthwhile programs like the Salvation Army, the United Fund, and Toys for Tots. Thank you for all that you are doing to make the world a better place.

Please remember those chapter members who are sick or infirm in your prayers. If you have time give one a call during the holidays. I know you will receive more than you can imagine from such a small effort.

On the Battle for GPO, WEP and Other Issues

The mid-term elections have provided new incentives to push for legislative changes in federal programs that discriminate against retired federal employees like WEP and GPO. However, given the financial situation, the war in Iraq, and energy cost, not much is expected from our efforts. We must continue to lobby and I'm excited about participating in the National Lobby Week activities. Remember to contribute to NARFE PAC, it's gets the most bang for the buck of any program I know of.

Other Things:

In the spirit of the Holiday Season, I have included a happy photo of George and Julina LeVander from last year's Sandhills Chapter 1895 Newsletter.

Happy Holidays to All

Tom Hobgood

President,

North Carolina Federation of

Chapters of NARFE

December 18, 2006



November Meeting Recap continued from page 5:

President Vilma Geisert asked Pete Feeney, Chair of the Nominating Committee to present the slate of chapter officers for the year 2007. The nominees are: President, Lloyd Geisert; Vice-President, Paul Sams; Secretary, Nancy Sandoval; Treasurer, Shirley Moser. Pete thanked the members of the nominating committee for their work. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the December meeting before votes are cast. President Geisert thanked the committee, Glen Lazarus, Henry Seufert, Earle and Nell Winnie for their efforts, and the professional manner in which Pete submitted the report.

December Meeting Recap: The regular business meeting of the Sandhills Chapter of NARFE met on Monday, December 11th, 2006, at DAY'S INN, Morganton Rd & US Rt #1, Southern Pines, NC and in conjunction with quarterly eating meeting. President Vilma Geisert opened the meeting at 11:00 AM with the invocation by Leatrice Beasley, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Twenty six were in attendance. Continued at top of next column.

President Geisert extended a welcome to all members, and to our guests Tom Hobgood, Federation President, and his wife Tommie.

George LeVander reported that chapter member, Robert Billy Capps, passed away November 25. Rosetta Smothers, Chaplin, is absent due to an upper respiratory illness. **Service Officer:** Clarence Martin; Members are calling with questions regarding Social Security and insurance death benefit entitlements. **Sunshine Program:** Louise Klabbitz reported Darla Davis is home recovering and doing well. **New Business.** Election of new officers for year 2007. Mr. Tom Hobgood, Federation President administered the oath of office to the newly elected officers of Chapter 1895, for 2007; Lloyd Geisert, President; Paul Sams, Vice-President; Nancy Sandoval, Secretary; and Shirley Moser, Treasurer. Julina LeVander made a motion that \$221.00 collected since October be forwarded to Alzheimer's Research and Development immediately to have it credited in year 2006. Motion was seconded by Lloyd Geisert, and unanimously approved. Julina reported that for the year 2006, Chapter 1895 contributed in raffle \$562.00

Nothing of value of worth or weight can be achieved with half a mind, with a faint heart and with lame endeavor.

Isaac Barrow

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**

Colledge, Margaret M., Pinehurst, NC
Hayden, Linda,J., Rockingham, NC
Locklair, T. S., Whispering Pines, NC
McAdoo, Joyce D. Pinehurst, NC
Moser, Shirley, West End

Members Sent 2nd Notices

Norman, Diane, Southern Pines, NC
Soesbee, John W., Pinehurst, NC
Walls, David M., Pinehurst, NC

Dropped for Non-Renewal:

Lindsey, Clarence V., Lumberton, NC

Passed Away:

Capps, Robert Billy, Rockingham, NC
Knowles, Helen, Midlothian, VA

2007 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	Shirley Moser	(910) 687-0334
Alzheimer's Fund	Julina LeVander	(910) 895-9657
Chaplain	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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28387**

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How many monthly Chapter meetings did you attend in 2006? 3? 6? None?

2007 New Year's Resolution: I will attend 3 more monthly Chapter meetings than in 2006.

Meeting: 2nd Monday of each month

Jan. 8th, 2007 10:30-Noon, Community Congregational Church, 141 N. Bennett St., So. Pines

Feb. 12th, 2007 10:30-Noon Community Congregational Church 141 N. Bennett St. So. Pines

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

NARFE—Your future—Our focus!