

Thomas Link
President
North Carolina Federation



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NC NARFE Federation President's UPDATE:

1. VISITS to NC NARFE Chapters: EVP Germak and I continue to schedule visits to our NC NARFE Chapters during 2026. I will be speaking to **Goldsboro Chapter 1830** on February 25, **Raleigh Chapter 192** on March 3, and **First Flight -Kill Devil Hills Chapter 2206** on May 14, 2026. EVP Germak and I are happy to speak to your Chapter throughout the year!

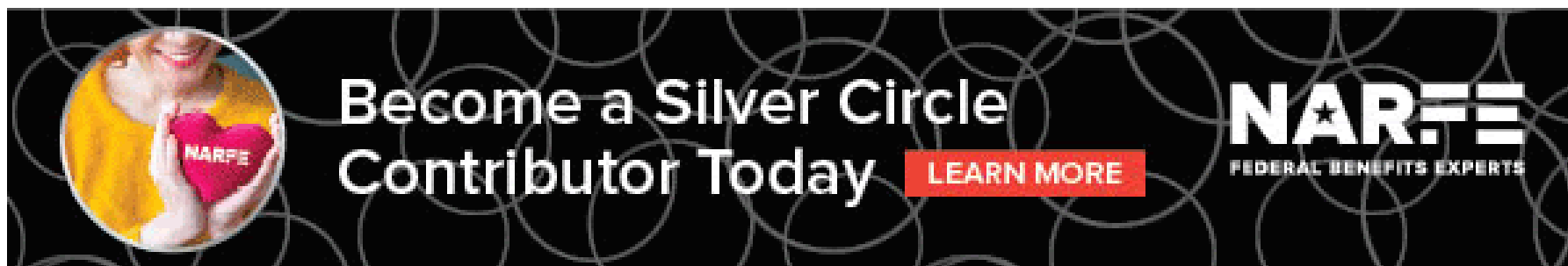
2. 70th Annual NC NARFE Federation Conference April 28-30, 2026: ONLINE Conference Registration and Hotel Reservations and much more is now online at our 2026

Annual Conference Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/ncnarfefederation/home>

We are looking forward to 100+ Attendees this year. By overwhelming demand, the Conference will again be held at the Hyatt Place Hotel in RTP, NC, right in the middle of our State right off I-40. Greater RTP Members will be able to drive to the venue each day and park for free. We're planning new events and celebrations now for our big Anniversary Year—the NC NARFE Federation was chartered in 1956! An in-person NC NARFE Chapter Presidents' Meeting will be held Tuesday Morning, April 28 to share information and discuss needs and planning with the Federation Board for 2026.

3. Federation Chapter Closures and Reopenings: The NC NARFE Federation and several Chapters are currently assessing their situation concerning Chapter operations. I want to do all that I can do to help ALL Chapters thrive and am here to listen. Perhaps you meet only 6 times per year instead of 12 or request assistance in making your regular meetings available via Zoom for all or some meetings—call me and let's see what we can or cannot do. ALSO, a Chapter cannot close without following the proper legal procedures and I am available to discuss details with you anytime. AND Chapters do close and reopen, depending on several circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Link, President, NC NARFE Federation,
Website: www.narfe.org/nc -- Video Message NC Federation President Tom Link; 1 minute - https://youtu.be/0NqPGnEkP3I?si=B4D_yjCjbCOcmZkq



Robert's Ramblings - NARFE Region X Report



My fellow North Carolina NARFEians, I hope you had a joyous holiday season! Now with the 2026 upon us, let's face the challenges of 2026 and seize on the opportunities the New Year brings

I want to focus on three updates from the National Executive Board. First, the board voted not to purge annually the NARFE database of life and honorary members who have reached 100 years of age. We learned that there are still members alive who are 100 or older and removing their names (under the assumption that they have passed away) was an affront to those still living! The supposed goal would have been to simplify the database to make it run more efficiently, but the flaws were obvious and the board voted against the proposal. Cindy Blythe, the NARFE National Secretary/Treasurer, and Nora MacDonald, NARFE Senior Director of Membership Engagement, will devise

a solution for this issue.

A second decision with far-reaching consequences is to allow a referendum beginning January 26 and running through February 24th with a bylaws amendment that changes the term limits of NEB members. Ultimately, it will establish terms of three years for all NEB members with an additional 3-year term permitted. The board approved up to \$40,000 for the referendum, (we had voted it down in August with a cost of \$25,000 and I voted against it again in November). As it turns out, I can run for my last two-year term, but board members who are in their first term would be allowed to run for one more two-year term, and then an additional three-year term, giving them the potential to sit on the board for seven years. If you have email, you will receive a ballot on January 26th. If you do not have email, you should contact NARFE HQ to request a paper ballot.

The third decision by the Board will likely have the most profound effect on our organization. The board voted to have closed meetings for two reasons. First, it is always possible that in open meetings discussions could inadvertently involve topics that are best done separately. Second, we have no way to know whether the meetings are being recorded for purposes not in NARFE's best interests.

NARFE Legal Counsel and the NARFE Parliamentarian both advised our meetings should be closed to protect the integrity of NARFE and help indemnify NEB members. The final vote was to conduct closed meetings except for staff reports and general information which can be held in open sessions.

There are other important decisions I can discuss with you. Please contact me at (757) 404-3880 or via email at rvp10@narfe.org. I'm happy to visit your chapters and address these issues with you.

Very respectfully,

Robert Allen, NARFE Region X Vice President

Legislative Observations

Doug Clapp

*National Legislative Officer and
NARFE-PAC Coordinator*

We need more Congressional District Leaders (CDLs). North Carolina has 14 congressional districts and we need a CDL for each. The mission of a CDL is to develop and strengthen the relationship with a member of Congress and his or her staff to advance NARFE's legislative priorities. A CDL needs a good email address and access to the internet. Want to know more? Check out <https://www.narfe.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/FH-7-0622-Advocacy-Leader-Guide.pdf>. Then contact me at doug.clapp1970@alumni.unc.edu.

We also need a few more good people to contribute to our own political action committee, NARFE-PAC. You'll find more information about signing up in your NARFE Magazine or at <https://www.narfe.org/advocacy/narfe-pac>

IMPORTANT Links

There is a new NARFE NC Federation website that we continually update. As a visitor, you can see most of its content, but to access our newsletters, you need to log in to [Narfe.org](https://www.narfe.org), located at: <https://www.narfe.org/nc> (the main NARFE address with "NC" added as a suffix). On the Home page, Under Latest News, there is a Summary of Recent Updates which includes recently added articles and their links. Check out the other main menus including Resources and Albums. Under Resources, Links contains very useful links to various resources. One of them is "Find and Contact Your Legislators"; an easy way to email your Federal and State Legislators based on your home address. Feel free to send us suggestions and comments using the Contact Webmaster at the bottom of each page.

Peter Eckhoff, Webmaster

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YOU EVERY STEP
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and the 68th Annual Meeting
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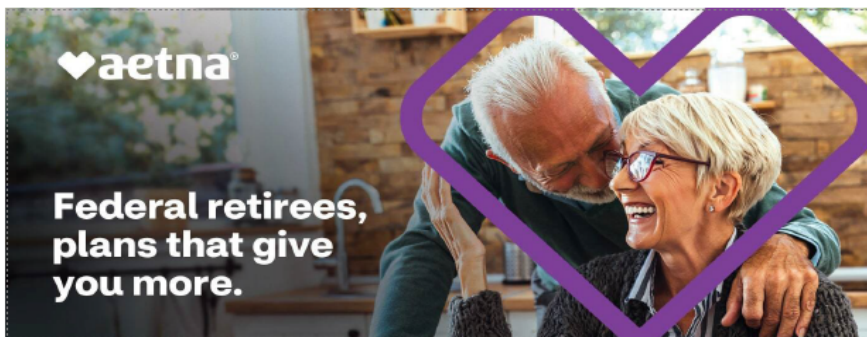
EVP Article for Spring Newsletter

Elected Officer Nominations for 2026-2028 – this year, NC NARFE Federation members will be electing officers for President, Executive Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The election will take place after the Annual Conference in April. Those elected to those positions serve a two-year term, beginning August 1, 2026. The President may not serve more than one two-year term, but after two years have elapsed, the same person may be elected for another term as President. Candidates can be nominated by their chapter, by another NC NARFE member, or by self-nomination. We are also accepting nominations for Federation Committee Chair/Members for the following Committees: Audit, Ballot & Teller, Budget, Bylaws, Communications, Engagement and Nomination, Membership, National/State Legislative, and Strategic Planning. Nominations must be submitted by Sunday, February 15, 2026 and you can use the following website: <https://forms.gle/MmvBmGoaWeWT8TKu6>

Federation Awards – Nominations are now being accepted for the NC NARFE Federation Awards. These awards are: Beulah Latta Service Officer, Thomas Hobgood, Charles R. Patton, Lyle V. Storch, and the President’s Award. The description of the awards and nomination forms can be found at: <https://sites.google.com/view/ncnarfefederation/home> and must be submitted no later than Sunday, March 15, 2026. Awards will be presented at the Annual Conference in April.

Volunteer Questionnaire - NC NARFE Federation would like to learn of the various valuable ways in which our members volunteer and “GIVE BACK” to their communities. We’d like to know your volunteer service(s), whether it is to your religious affiliation, charity, medical, Federal Government-like services, military, neighborhood, NARFE, etc. By virtue of us volunteering, we’re saving taxpayer’s money for services that they would normally have to pay for. Please take a few minutes to fill out this form. We will then develop a picture of these activities and how we “Give Back-NC”. Results will be tabulated and presented at the NC NARFE Federation Annual Conference in April 2026. Responses are at your discretion. This Questionnaire is being used for internal information purposes only. Results are completely confidential and no one’s personal information will be released. Please complete one Questionnaire per person. Please complete the Questionnaire no later than Tuesday, February 10, 2026. Thank you for your input and time! The Questionnaire can be found at: <https://sites.google.com/view/ncnarfefederation/home>

Policy and Procedure Manual – The Engagement and Nomination (E&N) Section of the Policy and Procedure Manual has been updated to coincide with the latest adopted NC NARFE Federation Bylaws. The E&N will be conducting the NC NARFE Federation Officers nomination process this year.



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**NC NARFE Federation
Newsletter UPDATE
FEBRUARY / WINTER 2026**