

- PalmettoPride Awards 21 Grants Totaling \$588.8K to Recipients in 32 South Carolina Counties—P. 4
 - Jasper County Hosts State House Day 2017—P. 4
 - SCACVAO Presents Officer of the Year Award to Kershaw County Veterans Affairs Officer—P. 4
 - State Fleet Management Staff to Explain How SFM Programs Can Help Counties Save Money—P. 5
 - SCAC Scholarship Selection Committees Meet to Evaluate High School Senior Applications—P. 5
- More ...*

SCAC to Host 50th Annual Conference July 30-Aug. 2

SCAC will celebrate 50 years of service when it hosts its 50th Annual Conference from July 30 to Aug. 2 in Hilton Head.

The conference—designed to help county leaders lead and serve more effectively—will offer training sessions, workshops and opportunities for county leaders to network and discuss challenges they face. It will also allow county leaders to meet with corporate supporters, exhibitors and others.

New SCAC officers and board members will be elected. Top county programs and projects will be presented and recognized. Awards also will be presented. (See **Program at a Glance**, P. 3).

Conference Speakers

General Session

NACo First Vice President Roy Charles Brooks (Tarrant County, Tex., Commissioner) will speak at the general session on Tuesday, Aug. 1.

Active in NACo since 1991, Brooks most recently served as chair of NACo's Large

Urban County Caucus, which works to address the challenges facing the nation's 100 largest counties. He has served on NACo's Board of Directors, chaired NACo's Health Steering Committee Subcommittee on Health Reform and chaired NACo's Healthy Counties Initiative Advisory Board.

Brooks is also the chairman of the National Organization of Black County Officials. For more than 30 years, he has represented his community as a volunteer, a city official and a county commis-



SOUTH CAROLINA
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Speaker for General Session



Roy Charles Brooks
NACo
First Vice President

Keynote Speaker for General Session



Dr. Fred Carter
President of
Francis Marion University

sioner. Located in the north central part of Texas, Tarrant County serves a population of approximately 1.8 million residents.

Brooks, elected to serve as a Tarrant County commissioner in 2004, has dedicated himself to addressing human services issues since taking office. He has taken on issues such as healthcare for the homeless, infant mortality, obesity, health disparities and AIDS education.

Brooks has served in numerous local, state and federal leadership positions and is passionate about improving residents' health and welfare. He has spearheaded many programs in Tarrant County, including the Tarrant County Ex-Offender Re-Entry Program, the Nurse Family Partnership—an evidence-based nursing home visitation program for first-time mothers and their children—and a Blue Ribbon Task Force on HealthCare for the Homeless.

Speaker for Betty T. Roper Luncheon



Loretta Graham

Dr. Fred Carter will be the general session's keynote speaker. Since 1999, he has served as president of Francis Marion University (FMU), presiding over a period of exceptional growth and development for the university. Dr. Carter is the longest-serving president in FMU history and the longest-serving public university president in South Carolina.

His entire career has been devoted to public service. Previously, Dr. Carter served as chief of staff to Governor Mark Sanford, executive director of the S.C. Budget and Control Board, and as senior executive assistant to S.C. Governor Carroll

(Continued on next page)



Campbell. He also served as chairman of the political science department at the College of Charleston and on the faculties of the University of Central Florida and Western Kentucky University.

Presently, Dr. Carter chairs the Governor's Graduate Medical Education Advisory Council, Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and S.C. Commission for International Cooperation and Agreements. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of Carolinas Hospital System, S.C. Bar Association's Commission for an Independent Judiciary, S.C. Research Authority and W.O. Powers Foundation.

Dr. Carter is the recipient of the S.C. Order of the Palmetto, and honorary degrees from the College of Charleston, Lander University and The Citadel. His career service has been recognized by the National Governor's Association (Distinguished State Executive Award), American Association of University Professors (Ralph Brown Award), S.C. Chamber of Commerce (Public Servant of the Year Award), International Federation of German-American Clubs (Lucius Clay Award), S.C. Humanities Council (Governor's Award in the Humanities), and S.C. Regional Council of Governments (Public Official of the Year Award).

Dr. Carter received his B.A. degree from the University of Central Florida and was awarded its distinguished alumnus award in 1999. He earned his M.P.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of South Carolina and was recognized by the university's College of Arts and Sciences as its distinguished graduate alumnus in 2006. Dr. Carter has authored five books and numer-

ous juried chapters and articles.

He served as an infantry officer in the U.S. Marine Corps and retired as a colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Loretta Graham will speak at the Betty T. Roper Elected Women Officials' Luncheon at 12 noon on Monday, July 31. She joined the Girl Scouts organization in 1991, beginning her career in the areas of membership and marketing.

Graham has more than 20 years of experience devoted to non-profits, including serving as regional director for Dakota Horizons Girl Scouts and CEO for Sakakawea Council of Girl Scouts, both in Bismarck, N.D. She became CEO of the Girl Scouts of Eastern South Carolina in 2008. Graham also served as director of REM, N.D., a non-profit organization that assists families achieve their goals through program coordination, teaching and support.

Graham grew up in Coward, S.C., and later attended Morris College in Sumter, S.C., where she earned a bachelor's degree in communication.

J. Mitchell Graham and Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards Competition

The 2017 J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards Competition will be held from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 30.

The J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award, established in memory of past SCAC President and Charleston County Council Chairman J. Mitchell Graham, recognizes excellence in gov-

Announcing SCAC's 2017 Awards Competition

SCAC is pleased to celebrate the 45th year of its annual awards program which recognizes innovative projects completed by South Carolina counties during the past fiscal year. The J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award recognizes counties that address community challenges, implement operational improvements, or enhance their citizens' quality of life in a unique way. The Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award highlights the critical need for regional partnerships, strategies, and solutions.

This year's submission deadline is June 23. The awards competition will be held July 30 during SCAC's 50th Annual Conference in Hilton Head. All participating counties will be recognized during the conference general session on August 1, and the winners will be announced at the banquet that evening.

To access the online video library from the 2016 awards competition, visit the Association's website at:

<http://www.sccounties.org/awards>



Published by the

South Carolina
Association of Counties

P.O. Box 8207
Columbia, SC 29202-8207

www.sccounties.org

(803) 252-7255
Fax: (803) 252-0379
smorgan@scac.sc

SCAC PRESIDENT
Julie J. Armstrong
Charleston County Clerk of Court

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Michael B. Cone

EDITOR & PHOTOGRAPHER
W. Stuart Morgan III



environmental performance.

The Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Award, established in memory of past SCAC President Barrett S. Lawrimore, recognizes the most outstanding regional cooperative effort of two or more political subdivisions.

County Council Coalition Meeting

The County Council Coalition Meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, July 31. The S.C. Commission of Disabilities and Special Needs will present the annual Golden Palmetto Award during the meeting.

Association Group Meetings, Elected Women Officials' Luncheon, Workshops and Other Activities

Several county official groups will hold meetings during the conference, but most of the meetings will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday, July 31.

The following four workshops, focusing on specific issues facing county government, will be offered from 2 to 4 p.m.:

- Getting the Most Out of Your 2020 Census Count
- Improving Quality of Life through Nuisance Abatement and Litter Control
- Legislative Update
- Combatting Mental Illness in County Jails

Institute of Government for County Officials

The Institute of Government for County Officials will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 29, and 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Sunday, July 30, preceding the annual conference.

The Institute will offer the following courses:

Saturday, July 29

- Orientation I
- Understanding and Seeking Differences
- Ethical Leadership and Public Service
- Decision-Making in a Political Environment
- Effective Public Engagement: From Informing to Involving

(Continued on next page)

Program at a Glance for SCAC's 50th Annual Conference

Tentative

July 30 – Aug. 2, 2017

Hilton Marriott Hotel, Hilton Head Island

Sunday, July 30, 2017

Worship Service
Registration
Exhibit Area Open
J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore
Memorial Awards Competition
Clerks to Council
Nominating Committee
Constitution, Resolutions and Bylaws Committee
Exhibitors' Reception

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
12 noon – 4:00 p.m.

(TBD)
Ballroom Foyer
Ballroom J and West Hall
Sabal Palm Room

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m.
3:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Ballroom A
Capt. Jack Stoney Room
Bayleys Barony Room
Grand Ballroom

Monday, July 31, 2017

Exhibit Area Open
County Official Group Meetings
Registration
County Council Coalition
Betty T. Roper Elected Women Officials'
Luncheon (Ticket Required)

8:30 a.m. – 12 noon
8:30 a.m. – 12 noon
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
9:00 a.m. – 12 noon
12 noon – 1:30 p.m.

Ballroom J and West Hall
(TBD)
Ballroom Foyer
Ballrooms A–C
Conroy's Restaurant

WORKSHOPS (Tentative)

- Getting the Most Out of Your 2020 Census Count
- Improving Quality of Life through Nuisance Abatement and Litter Control
- Legislative Update
- Combatting Mental Illness in County Jails

President's Reception

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Ballroom A
Ballroom B

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Ballroom C
Ballroom D
Grand Ballroom

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Registration
General Session
Annual Conference Banquet (Ticket Required)
Dance

8:30 a.m. – 12 noon
9:30 a.m. – 12 noon
6:45 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
9:00 p.m. – 12:00 midnight

Ballroom Foyer
Ballrooms A–F
Grand Ballroom
Grand Ballroom



Sunday, July 30

- Legal Issues in County Government
- Financial Management
- Capital Improvement Planning and Financing

Monday, July 31

The annual Betty T. Roper Elected Women Officials' Luncheon will be held from 12 noon to 1 p.m. on Monday, July 31.



PalmettoPride Awards 121 Grants Totaling \$588.8K to Recipients in 32 South Carolina Counties

PalmettoPride announced on Feb. 9 that it had awarded 121 grants, totaling \$588,799 for the 2016–17 grant cycle, to recipients in 32 South Carolina counties. The organization awarded five categories of grants to fund litter eradication and beautification programs as follows:

- 1) **Tree Grants**—779 free trees awarded to 15 recipients

for beautification programs in public spaces.

- 2) **PalmettoPride Education Grants**—\$58,304 awarded to 15 schools and school districts to implement litter pickup programs, recycling programs, green reading programs and Carolina Fence Gardens.

- 3) **PalmettoPride Enforcement Grants**—\$91,893 awarded to 24 agencies to purchase equipment needed to document litter and illegal dumping cases.

- 4) **Keep South Carolina Beautiful Grants**—\$186,020 awarded to 21 affiliates to implement programs within Keep America Beautiful's three program areas: litter reduction, waste reduction and beautification, and to start new affiliates.

- 5) **Community Pride Grant**—46 grants, totalling \$229,696, awarded to organizations and governmental departments to implement litter reduction and beautification programs. As a subset of the Community Pride Grant, PalmettoPride also awarded five grants, totaling \$22,125, to Adopt-A-Highway programs.

Visit PalmettoPride's website at www.palmettopride.org for a full list of grant winners.

PalmettoPride, a South Carolina organization, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit litter prevention and beautification organization that engages citizens to take an active role in keeping their communities clean and beautiful. The organization has been credited for helping to reduce litter in the state by 60 percent.

For more information, contact Sarah Lyles at styles@palmettopride.org or (803) 725-7733.



SCACVAO Presents Officer of the Year Award to Kershaw County Veterans Affairs Officer

The S.C. Association of County Veterans Affairs Officers (SCACVAO) recently presented the County Veterans Affairs Officer of the Year Award for 2016-17 to Barbara D. Ray, Kershaw County Veterans Affairs Officer.

"Barbara received this year's prestigious state award for her hard work and dedication to the veterans of South Carolina," said SCACVAO President Todd Humphries (Cherokee County Director of Veterans Affairs), who presented the award on March 30 at SCACVAO's spring training conference, held March 28–31 in Lexington. "Her dedication, compassion and commitment to our veterans are second to none. She has a 'never say no' attitude, and sets a great example for others. Barbara brings credit upon herself, the State of South Carolina and the United States of America."

The SCACVAO was founded in 1989. Candidates for the County Veterans Affairs Officer of the Year Award, who must be serving as an appointed county veterans affairs officer in good standing, must be nominated by Nov. 1 each year. An awards panel, consisting of SCACVAO members, past presidents and current president, selects each year's winner and presents the award at SCACVAO's annual spring training conference.



Jasper County Hosts State House Day 2017



Shown on April 11 at Jasper County State House Day 2017 are a few members of Jasper County Council—Council Member Henry Etheridge, Council Chairman L. Martin Sauls IV and Council Member Barbara B. Clark. The annual event, featuring a Lowcountry broil lunch beneath a large tent on the State House grounds, was sponsored by the Jasper County Chamber of Commerce, Jasper County, City of Hardeeville, South Carolina Alliance and 13 other businesses and organizations. The event, held when state leaders—including state legislators—are taking their lunch breaks, promotes Jasper County's economic development efforts.



State Fleet Management Staff to Explain How SFM Programs Can Help Counties Save Money

The S.C. Department of Administration's State Fleet Management (SFM) will participate in the SCAC's 50th Annual Conference, scheduled to be held July 30–Aug. 2 in Hilton Head.

The same SFM programs provided to state agencies and public colleges and universities are also available to all county

and municipal governments. SFM staff will be available during the conference to discuss how such programs might be able to help counties fulfill their fleet management needs and save counties money.

(Continued on next page)

SCAC Scholarship Selection Committees Meet to Evaluate High School Senior Applications

SCAC scholarship selection committees (shown here) met on Apr. 4 and 6 at the Association's office in Columbia to review applications submitted by high school seniors, and to select winners of SCAC's Presidential Scholarship and Board of Directors Scholarships.

Scholarship winners will be announced in the next issue of Carolina Counties Newsletter (July, Vol. 29, No. 4).

Each year, student applicants are required to submit application forms and write essays on their aspirations and goals. SCAC

scholarship selection committees then meet to carefully review the students' applications, grades, school activities and community involvement and select scholarship winners.

The Presidential Scholarship Selection Committee, which selects a graduating senior who is a resident of the same county as the SCAC's current president, met on Apr. 4. The Board of Directors Scholarship Selection Committees, which select graduating high school seniors who are residents of counties chosen by lot, met on Apr. 4 and 6.



▲BOARD OF DIRECTORS SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE, CHEROKEE COUNTY—(l to r) Ronald Young, Aiken County Council Chairman; CHAIR—Diane B. Anderson, Laurens County Council Member; and Dwight L. Stewart Jr., Clarendon County Council Chairman (unavailable for photo).

►PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE—(l to r) Joseph R. Branham, Chester County Council Vice Chairman; CHAIR—L. Gregory Pearce Jr., Richland County Council Member; and Johnnie Wright Sr., Orangeburg County Council Chairman.



►BOARD OF DIRECTORS SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE, ALLENDALE COUNTY—(l to r) Debra B. Summers, Lexington County Council Vice Chairman; CHAIR—Waymon Mumford, Florence County Council Member; and Henry E. "Sel" Hemingway Jr., Georgetown County Administrator (unavailable for photo).



▲BOARD OF DIRECTORS SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE, PICKENS COUNTY—(l to r) CHAIR—Belinda D. Copeland, Darlington County Treasurer; W.B. Wilson, Williamsburg County Council Member; and Charles T. Edens, Sumter County Council Member.

►BOARD OF DIRECTORS SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE, FLORENCE COUNTY—(l to r) CHAIR—F. Pickens Williams Jr., Barnwell County Administrator; Julie J. Armstrong, Charleston County Clerk of Court; and Donald E. Hancock, Saluda County Council Chairman (unavailable for photo).





SCAC'S 2017 WEBCAST CALENDAR

Webcasts will be published on this calendar when scheduled.
So, please check this calendar often.

For more information, please contact Leslie Christy-Jennings, SCAC, at (803) 252-7255 or ljennings@scac.sc. Or visit SCAC's webcast page at: <http://www.sccounties.org/webcast-training>

Consider these questions before attending SCAC's upcoming annual conference:

- How is your county currently tracking and evaluating fleet expenditures?
- Are you seeking a more cost-effective approach to procuring fuel for your vehicle fleet?
- Do you need to simplify accounting procedures for service and maintenance of fleet vehicles?

SFM staff will answer these questions and more during the conference, as well as discuss other SFM programs that could benefit your county.

For more information on SFM, visit <https://admin.sc.gov/stateagenciessupportservices>.



SCAC's 2017 Conference Calendar

July 29–30 July 30–Aug. 2	Institute of Government Annual Conference <i>Hilton Head Marriott</i>
Aug. 15	Setoff Debt/Gear <i>Embassy Suites, Columbia</i>
TBD	Continuing Education Update for Risk Managers <i>TBD</i>
Sept. 13–14	Policy Steering Committee Meetings <i>SCAC Office, Columbia</i>
Oct. 18 Oct. 19	Institute of Government County Council Coalition <i>Embassy Suites, Columbia</i>
Nov. 7–8	Policy Steering Committee Meetings <i>SCAC Office, Columbia</i>
Nov. 30–Dec. 2	Legislative Conference <i>Renaissance Charleston</i>
Dec. 8	S.C. Local Government Attorneys' Institute <i>DoubleTree by Hilton, Columbia</i>

You can register and pay online for SCAC conferences at www.sccounties.org/meetings.



NACo's 2017 Conference Calendar

July 21–24
Annual Conference and Exposition
Columbus, Ohio



SOUTH CAROLINA
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES