

ARKANSAS FEDERATION
NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
27 February 2009

President Charles Schmieder called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. President Schmieder gave all a welcome and very special welcome to the new Chapter presidents attending.

Invocation was given by Wenthom Maxwell and was followed by the pledge of allegiance to our flag in unison.

A short eulogy was given for Clif Jones by Ron Lambert, Federation Treasurer. Ron is from the same area as Clif and knew him.

Roll call denoted a quorum. Minutes of the previous meeting were waived due to the publication of the minutes on the website and newsletter.

George Wilken recapped the meeting at the Capitol Rotunda and the history and current status of the pending legislation for reduction/elimination of state income tax for Federal annuitants. Approximately 150 NARFE members were at the Capitol Rotunda on 15 January 2009. Complete report will be available on the website. For now, the bill will be undergoing an "Interim Study" to gather more supporting documentation. It will be reintroduced at the Legislative session in 2010. A sample letter for signing and mailing to your state Senators and Representatives requesting support in this legislative bill will also be made available on the website. When the time comes, each chapter will be asked to call for an appointment for a "face-to-face" follow-up with their Representative and Senator. Chapters will be notified when it is time to make contact with Arkansas Legislators.

Due to the imposed absence of Jim Kuzilik for the afternoon board session, Jim was permitted to give his District report at 10:30 am.

Region VP Jerry Hatfield briefly addressed the board with a question, "Who runs NARFE"? Bottom line is, the members do. Mr. Hatfield presented President Schmieder with a Federation President's lapel pin.

He related that due to the passage of recent stimulus legislation, Federal retirees will receive a \$250.00 tax break on their 2009 income tax.

Mr. Hatfield reminded all that the funds derived from the NARFE calendar donations are used to award scholarships to NARFE members children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Be sure and have them apply for these annual scholarships. For application and information, check the NARFE magazine for February, March and April of 2009 or the NARFE national website at www.narfe.org.

Winston Wolfe, Executive Vice President of Arkansas Federation, commented on Camden's upcoming Daffodil Festival. He reported on his visitation to chapters and organizations around the state. He also said he would be attending the NARFE Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.

Geneva Howe briefed the board on the availability of her organization in assisting NARFE in presenting information at retirement seminars. Everyone was urged to complete an F-100 and ensure everyone is aware of their importance. Also, keep the form updated so the survivors of a federal retired annuitant will not have difficulty in reporting the death and receiving death benefits they are entitled to.

Ann Crow, Federation Secretary, reported that not all chapters have submitted F-7 reports or a list of names of deceased members for their chapter, to be included in the memorial service at the Convention. Also, as soon as the chapter has designated their Convention delegates or Proxy, copies of each delegate form should be sent to the Federation Secretary. The delegate gets the original to carry to the convention and, a copy goes in the chapters files. The form is on the web.

Ron Lambert, Treasurer, gave the financial report, recording a balance of Federation assets at \$24,374.54. He reminded everyone of the May 15th deadline for each chapter to file a 990-N e-file with the IRS online. He also stated that approximately 20 of the 30+ chapters have paid their per capita dues.

Past President Waymond Meins, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, gave a report on the progress of the Nominating Committee and asked for candidates. He stated there was one announced interest for an office and that was for the office on Executive Vice President.

District Vice Presidents present for reporting were John Washam and Jim Kuzilik for Dist I, Stan Chapman, Dist II; Don Harris, Dist III, and Wenthom Maxwell, Dist IV.

Public Relations Chair George Wilken, related that a complete report of the tax reduction initiative will be on the web.

He has written a booklet for chapters to use for instructing them on hosting a State Convention. If you are interested in hosting a convention, contact him and he will travel to your chapter with the booklet and answer any questions the chapter may have regarding the process of hosting a state convention.

He reminded all he had posted the convention delegate form on the web. If anyone does not have a computer or needs assistance, contact George or someone with a computer for assistance in obtaining them. All chapters must submit delegate forms even if someone from another chapter is carrying the chapter's proxy votes.

Alzheimer's report was given by Hinda Gibbs. She asked for items for the silent auction at the convention. She urged everyone to use the current form that is on the web, www.narfeark.org. Please complete all portions and mail a check or money order made out to Alzheimer-NARFE. Do not make the check or money order to Hinda Gibbs or DO NOT SEND CASH. Amount of donations thus far this year is \$2,304.96. Hinda is a candidate for the office of Executive Vice President.

Convention Committee report was given by Chapters 93, Lott Rolf, President, and Chapter 1577, Alan Hall, President. The two chapters are co-hosting the convention at the Wyndham Riverfront

Hotel, 30 April - 2 May 2009. Events planned are a dinner cruise on (\$38.00) Thursday night and a banquet (\$30.00) on Friday night with entertainment. There will be refreshments at breaks.

A motion was made by Hinda Gibbs and seconded by Jim Geisler to raise the convention registration fee to \$35.00 commencing this year. Motion carried. The pre-registration forms will be posted on the web.

Room rate will be \$88.00 plus taxes for one or two persons. For each additional person in a room, there will be an extra \$10.00 charge. Check the web site for hotel reservations and details.

Chapters represented at the board meeting was 93, 287, 299, 463, 535, 966, 1156, 1451, 1453, 1547, 1577, 1605, 1813, and 2171.

An update was given by George Wilken on the reformatting of the newsletter.

After a brief discussion, it was agreed by the board to leave the reimbursement of travel mileage at 35 cents per mile. A copy of the Federation travel voucher is on the web site.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm. The next board meeting will be prior to the convention 30 April 2009. Details and agenda will be published prior to the date. The June board meeting will be at the Baptist Health Medical Center, Friday, 26 June 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ann Crow