

ARKANSAS FEDERATION
NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
26 June 2009

President Winston Wolfe called the meeting to order at 10:00 am at the Baptist Medical Center, Little Rock, AR. Invocation was given by Federation Chaplain Sue Warnix and Wenthom Maxwell led the pledge of allegiance to our flag in unison.

A welcome was given the attendees on this first meeting of a new Federation year. Region VI National Regional Vice President Jerry Hatfield was introduced.

Past President pins were presented to Ron Moore, Waymond Meins, and Charles Schmieder.

President Wolfe reminded the board that the morning session of a board meeting was for reporting only and any new business and unfinished business that was listed on the agenda would be presented in order listed. In order to have an item added to the agenda prior to a meeting, send it to the Secretary to add to agenda for President's concurrence.

Roll call by Ann Crow, Federation Secretary denoted a quorum. Motion was made by Charles Schmieder, seconded by Jim Kuzilik for the minutes of the previous meeting to be waived due to the publication on the website. Motion carried.

National Regional VP Jerry Hatfield briefly addressed the board "What has NARFE done for me?" as the topic of his address. A pamphlet is available from NARFE, F-122. Availability is on the NARFE web site, www.narfe.org, by ordering on F-18, or calling or emailing Jerry. It is a good recruiting tool as well as raising awareness of NARFE. Jerry listed the many things NARFE has done and is currently doing for the Federal employees and retirees.

President Wolfe gave his Presidential report to include summarizing the Federation Planning Session in Fort Smith, his visits to Hot Springs area chapters 205 and 1368, visit to Camden chapter, conference call with National and other National Region VI Federation Presidents, National Region VI VP, and Legislative Officers of Region Federations. He also attended the Postal Employees convention with Jim Kuzilik. He informed the board that the next board meeting had been rescheduled from the last Friday in October to October 7, 2009 due to conflicts of officer scheduling.

Secretary Ann Crow stated she still needed the names of deceased chapter members and to whom to send sympathy card from the Federation. Thus far approximately 12 have been sent this year.

Past president Schmieder reported attending Cleburne County chapter meeting where he briefed the chapter on the Referendum on Dues increase.

Past President Ron Moore reported that Chapter 493 had rejoined the Federation and had a slate of officers.

District Vice Presidents making reports were John Guest, Jim Kuzilik, Stan Chapman,, Wenthom Maxwell, and Louise Leverett.

Membership Chair Jim Kuzilik reported attending the recent Postal convention in Hot Springs and recruiting was successful. Also, after reviewing the M114 report, there are two chapters in the Federation who have done very well. Overall, what with the recruitment, there is only a loss of 10 members overall in the Federation.

Hinda Gibbs, Alzheimer Chair, reported donation to Alzheimers Research for May 2009 was \$1,216.25 and June thus far was \$268.90. She will be distributing new forms with an instruction sheet for completion to all chapters so reporting will be consistent. She reminded all that a completed report sheet must accompany each check (NO CASH) to her in order to get proper credit for the chapter donation.

Public Relations Officer Jim Geisler reported his plan to keep NARFE visible in the local media and his past experience in Public Relations.

Webmaster report by George Wilken had on display a magnetic logo he attaches to his car and is on the Web page when one first logs onto www.narfeark.org and encourages all to keep NARFE visible. Also, the new Officers Guide will be sent to Chapter Presidents. Similar information is on the web.

Margaret Culver, Federation Historian, urged anyone who has pictures or articles of historical nature to be added to the scrapbooks, please contact her. Her address and email address are on the web in the list of officers. She also stated the historical items will be on display at each meeting and at the conventions.

Reports from Chapter Presidents or chapter representatives were 93, 287, 299, 493, 1256, 1257, 1453, 1577, 1597, 1605, 1668, 1813, and 2116. Program ideas and recruiting ideas were shared.

Bill Johnson, Chairman of the Bruce Award, introduced the idea that since fewer entries were submitted for selection this year, chapters might entertain the possibility of reentering persons who have been previously sent for review. He also briefed the Board of the GEICO award. The President of Chapter 1368, Jim Brunskill, was visiting the Federation Board meeting. He was introduced and invited to speak. Chapter 1368 and Chapter 205 have been solicited to rejoin the Federation.

Jim Kuzilik reminded all to obtain the documents on Recruiting & Membership from the display table in back of the room. He had ordered the material from National to share with the Federation.

After lunch break, Jim Jones of Chapter Hot Springs 205 was welcomed to the meeting.

Ron Lambert, Federation Treasurer, reported Federation assets were \$22,021.20. After briefing the board on budget and proposed expenses for the upcoming year, Waymond Meins made a motion to leave the per capita dues at \$2.00 for each member for the coming year, seconded by Jim Kuzilik. Motion carried.

George Wilken, Training Officer for the Federation, gave the training availability, techniques, and tools for training consideration to include computerized "distance learning". He also stated he wanted the training plan from each of the District Vice Presidents prior to October 15th. He will assist each Vice President in any way he can, just let him know. He stated that training should be on the district level rather than chapter by chapter.

On the tax initiative, George gave a brief as to the status and plan for future proceedings. In regard to the Grass Roots plan, George reminded all to set up meeting by district with congressional reps from each district. Senators Lincoln and Pryor have been contacted for a meeting and the meetings for the Senators will be handled by him. Follow the guide he has distributed for reference. Also, he reviewed the Finance & Tax Committee of the State Representatives as to whom we should entertain for introducing the tax bill. In the event of an absence of George, he named Jim Geisler as his alternate.

George asked everyone to please check their email every few days. He has tried to get information delivered via the internet and failed.

Page 19 of the July NARFE magazine gives totals of Federal Employees, current and retired, annuitant survivors, and annuities. Compared with states around Arkansas, Arkansas is not attracting retirees due state income tax on retirees.

Jim Kuzilik, Membership Chairman, stated he had no plan. He just wants everyone to concentrate on keeping the members we currently have on record. When a member drops, either write, call, or visit that person as they could have forgotten. Urge them to sign up for dues withholding then that eliminates annual reminder notices for them to forget. If you do lose a member, recruit one or two in place of lost member.

Jerry Hatfield, National Region VI VP provided a reminder of the Tyler, Texas Seminar in September. Complete information is on the web sites of each state in region. Arkansas is www.narfeark.org, Texas www.narfetx.org, etc.

Ron Lambert, Federation Treasurer, clarified the by-laws of the Federation in regards to the reimbursement of meeting travel expenses and to whom. A check for \$157.00 which had been held in escrow at National HQ was received for distribution. Since the majority of members from the closed chapter #1848 were absorbed into chapter 493, the check was

given to Ron Moore for deposit into their chapter funds.

The 2010 state convention will be in Little Rock with Camden #1813 as host in May 2010. A site has not been selected but full details will be on the web as they develop.

President Wolfe discussed the Dues Referendum that is in review and in chapters nationally with voting scheduled for September. The vote is one vote per 50 members.

Fort Smith planning session notes briefly reviewed and all to receive via email a complete listing of the session notes. As stated in the notes, to access National Reports on www.narfe.org you will need to type username and password AFTER you have signed on with your name and member number from the front of your NARFE magazine. Everyone was encouraged to look at the M112 and M114 reports. If you do not have username and password, contact George Wilken.

Hinda Gibbs, Exec VP, was asked to work with the District VP's on the training issue and since the next board meeting will be 7 October 2009, the proposed training schedule will be due prior to the 7 October meeting.

A reminder, "What has NARFE done for you lately?" and if anyone wants to volunteer for a committee or assist in their area of expertise, please feel free to step forward and give of yourself for the good of NARFE. Also, if anyone wants to propose changes, please follow the procedures in the by-laws and policies and procedures.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm with a prayer from the Federation Chaplain, Sue Warnix. The next Board meeting will be 7 October 2009, at Baptist Health in Little Rock.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ann Crow
Federation Secretary