

The Heartbeat of the Nebraska Federation

Issue Number 6
Fall 2016
Alice Stevens, Editor

Notes from the President

I want all to know that your representatives in Reno, Nevada at the National Convention did all they could to voice your concerns and preferences regarding the Resolutions proposed by NEB and other Chapters around the country. I am very happy that because the resolution for 5 regions and the resolutions for 10 regions failed, the National Executive Board will presently maintain 10 Regions.

Our Regional Vice President, Carol Ek was re-elected for another term. She has done a yeoman's job over the years. When you get a chance, thank Carol for her dedication and assistance.

I refuse to get angry with the outcome of one member one vote and optional chapter membership passing. We need to ask ourselves what do the chapters and the Nebraska Federations play in the State. What I find is that we can still pass needed information to our members and fellow federal active and retired federal employees. Our leadership in the chapters and federation presently is strong. It concerns me that we have few potential leaders stepping up to the plate and that our present leaders are getting tired. For now, I am dedicated to my Chapter and the Federation and I ask all Chapters to support the Nebraska Federation by becoming more active.

The State Federation and Chapters are still governed by present bylaws. We need to continue to recruit members in our chapters. With that comes making our chapter meetings more attractive to present members and new potential members. How many of you have children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews working in the federal government. Ask them to please join for one year and help us make our meetings meaningful. Ask others you meet during your daily activities.

Look into changing your bylaws stating that you meet twice a month or quarterly. Maybe with these meeting changes we can plan a program that will attract new members.

I challenge each and every one of you to make a push this fall to get new members to join your chapter. You do not have to say that chapter membership is optional. Ask them to join your chapter because it is the only way National Active and Retired Federal Employees in Nebraska can be legislative advocates at the State and Federal levels.

What I challenge each chapter is to identify the reasons why we need to pursue the State of Nebraska in reducing the tax burden on retired federal employee's annuities. Email me at rmoore6@charter.net

CONVENTION NOTES

Delegates Affirm: We're going for \$13 Million for Alzheimer's

With its current \$13 million goal in sight, NARFE will now aim toward a new national goal in fundraising for Alzheimer's research: \$13 million in 2018. Delegates affirmed with their applause at the convention that recommendation from the NARFE-Alzheimer's National Committee.

Merv Stuckey, committee chairman, said the total raised by NARFE members to date is \$11.91 million, with the remaining \$82,000 of its current goal expected to come in "before the end of the year." The new National goal will take effect once NARFE reaches its current goal.

Chapter Membership, Voting Resolutions Adopted; Thissen and Dowie Re-elected:

Both resolutions received the requisite two-thirds majority vote in electronic balloting. We have been told that the issue of mandatory chapter membership has been a deterrent to NARFE's recruitment and retention efforts since its inception in the mid-1980s. The chapter resolution providing the optional membership (16-06 received 3,192 votes, 68.78 percent of the 4,641 votes cast was approved by Thissen having the two-thirds majority vote.

Votes at the convention regarding 16-24 garnered 3,485 votes, or 74.98 percent of the 4,648 votes cast. This replaces the current representative system in which chapters are authorized one vote for each 50 chapter members.

The third National Executive Board resolution which would have authorized the NEB to adjust national dues within specific limits (16-07) was defeated. Also defeated by one vote was a resolution that would have put a requirement for 10 NARFE regions into the bylaws. This resolution consolidated by the bylaws committee of several resolutions (BC-02) received 3,089 votes, or 66.63 percent of the 4,636 votes cast. It needed to receive 3,090 to reach the needed two-thirds. The combined resolution to put a requirement for five NARFE regions in the bylaws (BC-01) was soundly defeated. It received 966 votes, or 20.79 percent of the 4,647 votes cast.

All other bylaws resolutions failed.

Ronald W. Moore
Nebraska Federation President

Notes from the Region V Vice President

Happy Halloween and hope you are enjoying the beautiful fall weather.

If you have been reading your NARFE magazine and updates from Headquarters you have seen that the National Convention votes made by members have changed the structure of NARFE substantially with the passing of the vote for One Member One Vote (OMOV); and Non-Mandatory Chapter Dues.

The National Executive Committee will be thoroughly reviewing the 2016-2017 National Bylaws which are being written now following the National Convention to include changes are made correctly following the approval of One Member One Vote (OMOV) and making Chapter Membership non-mandatory.

What this means is that a ballot will be mailed or sent by e-mail to every member of NARFE who will cast a ballot for all officers; and, for all resolutions which will make changes in NARFE Bylaws or Standing Rules by e-mail or regular postage. Remember, these are National changes which will not affect how your federation does business unless your federation changes their Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Nebraska has a total of 1373 traditional chapter members; and, 347 national only members who have been transferred to the Nebraska federation as members with the closing of the e-NARFE chapter 2363.

It is now going to be up to the Nebraska traditional members to determine how these new members are going to become a part of your federation who may help you in making your federation stronger or not. This is a subject which I'm certain your federation officers will be discussing with you at your convention this year; if not before. We need to include these members within NARFE to possibly hold offices and certainly invest in our PAC (Political Action Committee) and donate to our Alzheimer's research fund. How you wish to do this is your choice.

Make certain you get your letter to your Senator and Congressmen asking them to pass a bill making all Senior Citizens Medicare payments withheld under the hold harmless provision for Social Security. If we do not get this bill passed, 30% of the people who do not have their premiums withheld from Social Security will be paying the increases for all. Our Legislative Office is working very hard to get this changed; but they need all of our help with our Congressional people. Write tomorrow! A letter is on the NARFE website which you can fill in and send immediately. It's so easy!

I will be at the National Executive Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 15 through 18 with our main purpose to finalize the new Bylaws. We will be taking up other information. If anyone has something they would like me to take to the Executive Board, write it up with enough explanation that I can make that presentation to the board.

Carol R. Ek
Region V Vice President

Notes from the Alzheimer's Chairman

Region V Federation Alzheimer's Chair, Janice Neuschafer, wrote the following in a letter dated September 6, 2016: "The National NARFE Alzheimer's Committee met for our annual meeting August 27 and 28 before the start of the NARFE National Convention in Reno. Danielle Mytych of the Alzheimer's Association office in Chicago told us we had \$470,633 available to spend on research grants. Thousands of applications for research grants are received. A team of doctors at the Alzheimer's Association review these applications. We were given eight research grant

requests ranging from 2-3 years in the amounts ranging from \$97,524 to \$245,830. Dr. Dean Hartley, PhD, Director of Science Initiatives with the Alzheimer's Association met with us on Sunday to explain each of the research grant requests we were given. We chose several grants. I will give you more information on that in my next letter after the researchers have been notified of their funding."

Janice also stated that the National NARFE Alzheimer's Committee voted to set a goal of \$13 million by the end of 2018.

Kathy Wright
Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator

Notes from the Historian

According to some early records of Chapter #199, a meeting was held in Omaha in June of 1963 for the purpose of forming a State Federation. National Secretary Clarence Tarr and Field Vice President O.T. Davis of Lawrence, Kansas, were there. Charles Black of Chapter #144, Omaha was elected the first President.

The original Charter is missing. Only a picture is in the history books. A copy has been reproduced. Efforts are being taken to find the original charter. Someone has the charter. Whenever presidents were changed it has been misplaced. Please check your files. You will find the picture of the original charter on the last page.

The 2nd Federation business meeting was held on May 23, 1965, in Sidney, Nebraska. Chapters that were present were: Omaha #144, Lincoln #199, Hastings #362, Blair #742, Nebraska City #835, and Sidney #892. The program consisted of remarks by Federation President Charles J. Black, Chapter #892; President Marshal Larkins; and Oren T. Davis, Field Vice President Region 12B. The Banquet was held at 12:30 p.m. to close the meeting. The meal consisted of tomato juice, roast beef, natural gravy, tossed salad, rolls, coffee, and a chocolate sundae.

Here is a list of NARFE Chapters of Nebraska and Charter dates:

0144 - Omaha, May 5 1952	1509 - Grand Island, August 19, 1976
0199 - Lincoln, August 18, 1952	1531 - Holdrege, May 17, 1979
0362 - Hastings, October 28, 1953	1717 - Chadron, October 15, 1980
0742 - Blair	1902 - Columbus, June 30, 1982
0835 - Auburn (Nebraska City) September 18, 1962	1912 - Kearney, August 25, 1982
0892 - Sidney	2028 - Ainsworth, July 10, 1984
1064 - Scottsbluff, January 12, 1968	2087 - Fremont, October 16, 1985
1065 - McCook, February 8, 1968	2110 - North Platte, April 1, 1986
1239 - Norfolk, May 25, 1972	2113 - Fairbury, May 29, 1986
1370 - AkSarBen, July 2, 1974	2125 - Ord, June 1986

Bob Voboril
Federation Historian

Notes from the District #2 Representative

District #2 has been busy collecting funds for Alzheimer's research through Foodless/Food Sales, various raffles including the 50/50 raffles, and Save Your Pennies donations this fall. We are proud of all who participate in this very important endeavor.

We continue to struggle with falling membership, but are committed to finding new members and retaining current members. Chapter Presidents continue to encourage each member to recruit at least one new member.

Alice Stevens

District #2 Representative

Federation Officers

Ron Moore, President	308-632-3023
Pamela Swanson, Vice President	402-292-1156
Nancy Stenger, Secretary	402-834-0338
Janna Cornelius, Treasurer	308-379-0405
George Swanson, Service Officer	402-292-1156
Kathy Wright, Alzheimer's Chair	402-558-2677
Bob Voboril, Historian	402-564-3344
Arthur Christianson, District #1 Rep	402-421-8494 (for chapters 0144, 0199, 1370)
Alice Stevens, District #2 Rep	308-384-1634 (for chapters 0362, 1239, 1509, 1902)
Roger Eggleston, District #3 Rep	308-534-5966 (for chapters 1064, 1717, 2110)



September 15, 2016

Dear NARFE Officers:

Does your chapter or federation have plans for grassroots advocacy for October? Do you know how to take advantage of election year activities? Or are you not sure where to get started? If so, the September Legislative training webinar, "October Advocacy in an Election Year," hosted by Molly Checksfield, NARFE's Grassroots Program Manager, will help you get started or, if your planning is already underway, help you hone in on your skills. October will be a prime time for NARFE members to get involved in grassroots advocacy as the November election draws near. This month's webinar will review the logistics of planning and executing a successful outreach effort that focuses on NARFE's issues. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the presentation.

NARFE uses GoToWebinar for its webinar presentations. Once you submit your name and email address, you will receive an email with a unique login from GoToWebinar. Approximately 60 minutes before the webinar, you will receive a reminder email with your unique login information. Note: the login information may recommend a microphone hook-up. Since we will take questions at the end of the webinar via a chat box, you will not need a microphone hook-up.

Please feel free to forward this email to NARFE members who may not have received it and who you think would be interested in participating in the webinar.

Thank you,
NARFE's Legislative Department

National Association of Retired Civil Employees

Washington D.C. July 18, 1963

To Whom This May Come, Greetings:

Reposing confidence in the Integrity and Earnestness of the petitioners names below, who work to promote the welfare of the retired civil employees, The National Association of Retired Civil Employees hereby grants this Chapter to Affiliated Chapters in the State of NEBRASKA to be known as the NEBRASKA FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS. The State Federation is hereby authorized the function as an auxiliary arm of the National Association in matters looking to the betterment of the states of retired civil employees subject to the Articles of Incorporations and By-Laws of the parent Association and regulations for its guidance promulgated by the Executive Committee of the Association.

CHARLES J. BLACK, PRESIDENT

PAT L. SAVWELT, 1st VICE PRESIDENT

ANTON C. BECKNAL, 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

BLAIR CHAPTER No. 742
LINCOLN CHAPTER No.199

HASTINGS CHAPTER No. 362
NEBRASKA CITY CHAPTER No. 835

OMAHA CHAPTER No. 144

WITNESS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED OF THIS CHAPTER ON JUNE 10, 1963

Done at Washington D. C. this EIGHTEENTH
day of JULY , 196 3

Asset:

 Glenn R. Simcox
President

 Clarence M. Tarr
Secretary