

**NARFE OKLAHOMA FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS
62TH ANNUAL CONVENTION**

HOSTED BY CHAPTER 0946 was held on MAY 14-15 2015 at the Rose State College, Convention Hall in Midwest City, Oklahoma.

Convention Opened at 1:30p.m. with the call to order given by the Master of Ceremonies, Billie Ripple who introduced chapter 946 members and the Sergeant at Arms, Jerry Ryan who gave the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance. Door prizes were then given by Jamie Thompson. An Introduction was given by James Crowder to Stan Griel, V. P. Rose State College, who gave the welcome speech.

A thank you and the Introduction of Federation President were made by Ron Cannefax. Federation President, James Olden then gave a last annual state convention reminder, the conventions now are going to a 2 year cycle and corrections to the banquet time were made; The convention program booklet needed the following changes made: Friday changed to 15th; Nominating Committee head is Jeff Vaughan; Alzheimer head is Betty Lowery; Presenter for Jeff Vaughan is Randy Koonce. Motion was given and 2nd then all of these changes were approved. Then nominations from the floor were made for each office. Article XV section 1 was cited giving the opportunity for new officer nominations. With no new nominations for office the nominations were closed. President Olden introduced Region 6 Vice President Marshall Richards.

Marshal Richards gave statistics and information on recruitment and retention. NARFE's main purpose is legislation and spoke on PAC funds. The Strategic Planning Committee was mentioned you will find information on that at narfe.org; Charles Stanphill is our representative for this committee. PR ideas were given to get publicity for NARFE. Regional 6 seminar will be in Sulphur, Oklahoma this September 23 and 24th was discussed. A Market Research Plan video by Bridget Boel from NARFE National Office was shown. The reports should be on the NARFE.org website.

Thank you by President James Olden and introduction of our National President Richard Thissen via video was made. President Thissen spoke about the reorganization of headquarters. Two new positions in Marketing and Non Dues Revenue area are filled. Mr. Thissen spoke on the following: losses in membership; money for recruitment; reinstatement; number of deaths so far this year; retirement benefits; the importance of the service officer; and the House and Senate budgets.

Headquarters is looking at every piece of legislation and will keep us aware so that we will be able to write letters when necessary. There are many attacks within the budgets. A Strategic planning committee was discussed. Go to stratplan.org your input is needed. The topics discussed here will be brought to the convention in 2016.

2:38 p.m. Break—15 minutes

Convention resumes at 2:56 p.m. by Memorial Service officer Ethel Broiles

Roll Call of Chapters and Federation Officers given by Secretary, Jean McBride-Samuels. A motion to waive the minutes from being read was made and a 2nd; Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was given by Johnny Hanlon; then awards were presented by Randy Freeland. The 5 categories of Awards were mentioned and the chapter who received the awards were as follows: 5. Weatherford Ch.1346, 4. Altus Ch. 909, 3. Shawnee Ch. 542, 2. Muskogee Ch 22; 1. Mid west/Del city Ch. 946. Next Dorothy Branson presented an award for historian Norma Crawls from chapter 1621.

Dan Jenner spoke on NARFE PAC. The President gave instructions to the caucuses to do the following: To elect a Dist V. P. and select a person for the nominating committee for the 2017 State Convention. Banquet Instructions and other announcements were given by Billie Ripple the convention adjourned at 3:40p.m.

District Caucuses—Met Immediately after the convention adjourned in the following rooms:

District I Jeff Vaughan Room 108

District II Ron Vick Room 109

District III Jerry Walker Room 110

District IV Marilyn Componation Room 111

District V James Olden Room 213

On Friday at 8:35a.m. Reconvene Convention with Door prizes by Jamie Thompson at 8:30a.m.

Call to Order by James Olden. Pledge of Allegiance and prayer by Jerry Ryan; Advisory Council member Charles Stanphill spoke on declining membership; possible reductions to organization and changes it may need to take to survive.

James Olden Introduces the National Legislative Director Sarah Weissman appearing via webinar on Legislative updates for the 114 congress and the 113 congress recap. She discussed the following: NARFE was included in the Top ten lobbyist victories article mentioned in the newspaper called The Hill on Capitol Hill last year because of it's success'; 114 congress: The house looks to reduce the benefits for federal employees in the areas of: annuity of FERS supplement; elimination of FERS; decrease rate of return on G fund; increase contribution by 6% FEHBP premiums increasing; increasing postal employees share of their FEHBP premiums 10% reduction of federal workforce through attrition.

This budget in both chambers passed, a \$193 billion in savings from federal benefits / workforce cuts. What's on the table: chained cpi; pay freezes; high 5; changing retirement multiplier; more cuts were given.

NARFE focus is fighting attacks to federal pay and benefits including FEHBP; crafting a USPS reform bill that really reforms; preventing the chained cpi from becoming reality; Use of the grassroots advocacy was discussed, go to narfe.org/heartbeat for a toolkit found on the NARFE web site. Additional ways to help like writing your congress person; attending town halls meetings; make phone calls even the use of social media; read the PAH daily clips; join monthly PAH; represent NARFE at community events and check the NARFE website; When writing congress, personalize your story tell them where you worked how this bill hurts or helps you. NARFE PAC was discussed; many questions were asked and answered from the convention floor.

Committee Reports:

Audit committee report given and submitted by James Gillispie; **Credentials** report given and submitted by Barbara Garner: With 15 Chapters reporting there were 68 delegates present, 8 Federation officers, 1 past president with a total number of delegates of 72, with 2 visitors and 17 non voting members. A total of 96 in attendance.

Teller and Ballot reported and submitted by Ed Farris. **Nominating** committee report given and submitted by Carolyn Harris a vote was taken by acclamation on the officers and was **approved**. **Sgt at Arms** report given by Jerry Ryan; **Time and Place** given and submitted by Ron Vick, Lawton and Tulsa were the two listed for 2017. **Resolutions** report given by Randy Koonce, Mr. Koonce then read the resolution it was then voted on and **rejected** by the convention. Point of order was made by Jamie Thompson on the non delegates not being removed from the body of delegates.

State of the Federation given by James Olden, addressing the Federation finances and recruiting of members. Our newspaper to every member in the state was discussed. Nancy Stanphill spoke to us about the newspaper, how it is funded and what each chapter should do to help her as newspaper editor. Articles must be in Word format through an email. New information about your chapter, human interest, educational in nature; letters to the editor will be in this newspaper. Any member can submit an article. Photographs via email are welcome. Nancy's website address is on the narfeok.org website. May 1st deadline was extended to May 29 drop dead date. On July 1 the paper should be mailed. A new mailing list will be provided for every issue and they will not sell our names to anyone. The federation newspaper will be dropped saving a lot of money for the Federation. Time sensitive alerts will be given via e-mail. The Newspaper will be mailed about one month after deadline period so giving birthday and anniversary notices will need to be given early. Many questions were asked and answered. Pres. Olden ask that our articles go through our chapters first but any member can send in articles and pictures. A pitch for NARFE Pac was made by Dan Jenner. Alzheimer table asked for ticket buyers.

15 minute break taken. 11:05a.m. Reconvene Convention

District Caucus Reports by District VP's

District I report by Johnny Hanlon. Jeff Vaughn will be District I V.P. and Nancy Vaughn will serve on the Nominating Committee.

District II report and submitted by Ron Vick. Ron Vick will be District II V.P. and Lahunta Thompson will serve on the Nominating Committee.

District III report and submitted by Jerry Walker. Jerry Walker will be District III V.P. and Jim Henley will serve on the Nominating Committee.

District IV report and submitted by Ron Cannefax, Ethel Broiles is the new District IV V.P. Joann Dungan will serve on the Nominating Committee.

District V report by James Olden. The new District V V.P. is Linda Resnick. Bob Seikel selected for the Nominating Committee.

Courtesy Resolution report by Jean McBride-Samuels: There were none

Alzheimer's Final Report and Betty Lowery the amount collected at this convention was \$375.

Installation of Officers by Pres James Olden

NARFE PAC Results by Dan Jenner reported \$1445.00 collected

2017 Convention Report: 2017 convention will be hosted by **2184 in Tulsa Oklahoma**

Comments and Announcements by James Olden

Special Drawings by Norma Baxter/Jamie Thompson brought in over \$300. Billie Ripple gave well thanks to many in the convention.

Pres. Olden deferred to the President Elect regarding the Federation board meeting immediately after the convention.

Final drawing for \$50.00 was made.

Benediction given by Jerry Ryan

Convention adjourned at 11:40a.m.