

MINUTES

60TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF OKLAHOMA FEDERATION OF NARFE CHAPTERS

MAY 2-3, 2013 HOLIDAY INN NORTH-QUAIL SPRINGS, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

FRIDAY MAY 2, 2013

Convention was called to order at 1:30 PM by Ed Pitts, President of host chapter 0947. He introduced chaplain and master of ceremonies. The invocation was presented by James Heath, chaplain. Colors were presented by UCO Army ROTC Color Guard. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Karen Hackett, master of ceremonies. Karen introduced LeAnn Jenkins, Executive Director of Federal Executive Board of Oklahoma who gave us a welcome speech.

Karen introduced Charles Stanphill, President of the OK Federation of NARFE. He gave us a welcome and recognized Jerome Smith, our Region VI VP, as an honored guest. He asked for the agenda to be accepted as it was printed in the convention booklet, with exceptions and deviations, if needed. Jeff Vaughan moved to accept the agenda as printed with possible exceptions and deviations. It was seconded and approved by vote of the delegates.

Nancy Vaughan was introduced as the chairman of the nominating committee. She presented the slate of Federation officer candidates who had applied for positions and asked for nominations from the floor. No other candidates were nominated from the floor.

Charles explained that he had requested Richard Thissen, our National Treasurer, be present at our convention this year. Mr. Thissen's schedule did not allow him to be present, so he prepared a video which was shown to the delegation. He gave many interesting facts about the state of the organization at the National level, adding that the treasury investments had increased nicely last year due to the good performance of the stock market. However, the decline of membership still presents some budget problems.

After a 15 minute break, the Memorial Service for members who passed away during the calendar year 2012 proceeded. Jeff Vaughan gave a special tribute to past Federation officers who passed away this calendar year and will not be mentioned in the Memorial service. Those included John Trent, L.B. Smith, O.D. and Frances Provine. The Memorial service was led by Karen Hackett.

Charles introduced Nancy Stanphill, Federation Secretary, to read the roll call of chapters for a delegate count, Federation officer roll call, and read the minutes of last year's convention. Johnny Hanlon moved to dispense of the reading of the minutes since they have been posted to the state website for a year and have been available for everyone to read. No changes were proposed, so minutes were approved as posted on the web. This delegate roll call count was given to the Credentials committee to help arrive at an official delegate count.

The Treasurer report was given by Robert Oltmanns, Federation Treasurer. He reported a balance on hand as of April 31, 2013 of \$33,851.85. This includes two CD's and the primary checking account. His written report is included in the convention file.

James Olden, 1st VP Membership, presented monetary awards to the winning Chapters of Year for outstanding membership achievement. The winners are as follows: Category 1, Chapter 2320; Category 2, Chapter 0730; Category 3, Chapter 1722; Category 4, Chapter 0183.

Lacinda Green, Service Officer, presented to Curtis Richardson, a plaque and letter award for the Oklahoma Service Officer of the Year. He is from Chapter 0183, Stillwater.

Karen gave some instructions for the evening banquet. Charles announced that the district caucus meetings would take place immediately following our convention meeting today.

The convention was recessed for the day at 3:35.

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2013

The convention was called to order by President Charles Stanphill at 9:09 AM. The Invocation was given by James Heath. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Karen Hackett.

Under unfinished business, Historian Dorothy Branson asked for chapter officers to take information located in the box at the front of the room back to their chapter.

Jerome Smith, Region VI VP, was introduced to present his State of the Region address. He asked us to contact him with any questions we might have about the National level of NARFE. If he could not help, he would find the answer. He is our link to the National office. Jerry said that Retention and Reinstatement is a job for all of us. Member numbers are important to our organization. Our \$40 dues is the best insurance we can buy to protect our annuity. He gave us several useful ideas to use to help retain and reinstate members, and make our current members feel important and needed. The future of NARFE is in our hands.

The next agenda item was the Committee Reports. The Advisory Council led by Past President Jeff Vaughan was given the task of making recommendations for future conventions. He had a committee to work with him, a member from each district. He reported that a two day convention has been well-received, and recommended that format be used in the future when practical. The committee also felt that a convention held biennially in odd numbered years would serve our Federation well. Expenses and lack of pertinent agenda items every year makes an annual convention seem a waste of time and money.

James Gillispie, Audit Chairman, said he found the treasury books to be in good order. He recommended that future treasury books be kept electronically, instead of manually.

Credentials Committee chairman, Caroline McLellan, reported that 18 chapters were represented with 68 delegates present. There were 12 Federation officers present, and 1 past President for a total of 81 delegates. There were 13 other members and guests present for a grand total of 94 registered in attendance. This did not count presenters and speakers not registered.

Teller and Ballot committee, chaired by Ed Farris, reported that his committee would help count delegates on any voting issue that needs clarifying. A paper ballot would not be needed at this convention since only one candidate is available for each office.

After a break, Nancy Vaughan, Nominating chairman read the list of candidates for each office again and stated that each is qualified to run. Voting will take place later in the proceedings.

Sgt. at Arms committee chairman Ed Pitts listed his committee members and pointed them out. Each wears a blue vest. Their function is to help members and keep matters running smoothly in the facility.

Marilyn Componation, Time and Place chairman, stated that Chapter 0183 will host the next convention in Stillwater, most likely on Thursday and Friday, May 1-2, 2014. Place will be announced. A place for the 2015 convention could not be established.

Resolution Committee chairman, Jeff Vaughan, stated the four resolutions coming before the floor later in the proceedings. He quickly clarified each.

The President of the Oklahoma Federation, Charles Stanphill, gave his State of the Federation address. He reminded us of how we were successful in helping to stop the legislation in the Oklahoma Legislature last year dealing with the income tax reform that was detrimental to Federal and other retirees. This is an example of how our organization is helping us. We need to be on constant alert to such matters in the future. Charles named two chapters, Clinton and Durant, which, unfortunately, closed this last year due to lack of leadership interest. Those members merged with the Statewide Chapter. He also said that our Federation was in good shape fiscally and that policies he used during his term helped to keep expenses under control. He thanked his board members for their helpful attitude and stated that they were among the best with which he could hope to work.

The District Caucus reports were given next. District I VP Jean Samuels stated that Nancy Vaughan was selected to the nominating committee. A replacement for Jean could not be found at this time. She is running for Secretary and cannot continue as Dist. VP. District II VP Alyce Cordray-Green said that Lahunta Thompson was selected to the nominating committee. Alyce wishes to resign her position, but will remain in place until a new Dist. VP is named. District III VP Jerry Walker named Ellen Rathjen as their nominating committee member. He was reelected to his position. District IV VP Marilyn Componation said the Nancy Watson was selected to the nominating committee. She was reelected to her position. District V VP Linda

Agee named Marvin Resnick as the selected nominating committee member. Robert Edwards was elected to be the new Dist. V VP.

A break was called at this time. During the break, box lunches were delivered and passed to each member. Time was given for most to nearly complete their meal before the business session was called back to order.

The next agenda item was election of officers. James Gillispie moved to elect the officer candidates by acclamation. It was seconded and voted in the affirmative by the delegates. The newly elected officers came forward as a group to be sworn in by Jerome Smith. Each gave a short speech accepting their position. Jerry then pinned each incoming line officer with a pin signifying their office. The officers elected are as follows:

President—James Olden

1st Vice-President—George Frame

2nd Vice-President—Dan Jenner

3rd Vice-President—James Crowder

Secretary—Dorothy Jean Samuels

Treasurer—Johnny Hanlon

Historian—Dorothy Branson

Their official duties begin on June 1, 2013. The bylaws authorize the President and Treasurer to be on the Federation's financial accounts, CD's, and other interest bearing items owned by the Federation.

Jeff Vaughan presented the resolutions for acceptance. Nancy Stanphill, committee member, read each resolution one at a time. Jeff asked for questions or discussion. Each of the four resolutions were accepted. The resolutions are attached to these minutes. These resolutions will take effect immediately, except for the one dealing with the Historian. The Historian has already been elected for this coming term of office. At the next election, this position will become an appointed position in the Federation.

Jeff then presented an amendment to the Constitution which changes Article IV to read, "Conventions shall be held biennially after April 1 in odd numbered years." After discussion, a vote was taken to accept or reject the amendment. This amendment was not given a 60 day notification to the chapters, so in order to pass, it must receive a 2/3 vote in the affirmative. The vote was split, but there was not a clear 2/3 majority for the amendment, so it failed. If it

had passed by 2/3, it would have gone to the chapters as a referendum. The general feeling of the delegates was that even though many agreed in essence to the amendment, they would have preferred more time to talk with their chapter members about it. Also, Chapter 0183 agreed to hold the convention in 2014, not 2015. It was suggested that it be presented to the convention next year with the proper 60 day notification.

NARFE PAC Chairman, Dan Jenner, reported that \$525 were collected for the PAC fund. Charles added a footnote that before monies are given to a candidate who requests PAC funding, their request is sent to NARFE chapters in his legislative area and must be unanimously approved by them.

Betty Lowrey reported the Alzheimer's results for CY 2012. A total of \$7,550.27 was collected during the year which included \$926 received from the Memorial Cards. Chapter 2184 was presented an award certificate for the highest amount of money collected. A preliminary estimate of \$742 is the amount from table sales and the raffle at this convention. The raffle drawing was conducted and the winner was presented with a quilt.

Charles thanked Karen Hackett, convention chairman, for her dedication and hard work to prepare for this convention. She, then, thanked her committee for their work to help her. Nancy Stanphill read a Courtesy Resolution which, again, recognized the work of the convention committee.

Jerry Smith gave an invitation to the Region VI Seminar to be held in Arkansas in September.

After a few other comments and announcements, the Benediction was given by James Heath.

President Charles declared the convention closed at 2:40 PM.

Nancy Stanphill

Secretary, Oklahoma Federation of NARFE Chapters