

MAPPING OUR FUTURE

CALIFORNIA FEDERATION CONVENTION REMINDER AND UPDATES

REGISTRATION: Your Executive Board really wants you to come to our convention June 23 – 25, 2025, in Reno, NV at the Silver Legacy. So, we are extending the Early Bird registration fee of \$100.00 per person until June 13, 2025 (just a week and a half prior to the convention). So, if you are still on the fence, get off of it and sign up for this amazingly low fee which comes with the Monday Reception, Tuesday Recognition Luncheon, Wednesday Dinner Banquet, and your convention bag and materials, including a nice convention program book.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: We have had issues with members calling the Silver Legacy and being told there are no rooms available. Not true. The call-in staff are misinformed. We are trying to get them to correct that misinformation. You must use the internet Passkey link <http://book.passkey.com/go/SRNAR5>. If you use this passkey link, you will have no trouble accessing our amazing rate. If you don't have a computer, find somebody that does. If you can't use the passkey link, you can email the group email address: grouppresv@silverlegacy.com and they will help you but you still have to use your computer or phone for email. If our room block does fill up, we will add more rooms. The room block does not expire until June 15th, 2025.

CONVENTION PROGRAM: We have had several requests for advance copies of the convention program which will be in the program book in your bag when you check in. So, for those who need this advance information, we are providing the following summary:

The California Federation Convention is scheduled to begin Tuesday, June 23, with an evening reception. On the following two days there will be speakers and training sessions from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. To close out the convention, there will be a banquet on Wednesday evening, followed by music and dancing.

As we are conducting the Convention in Reno, Nevada members are invited to register and participate in any or all events.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- Bill Shackelford, President, NARFE
- Mercedes Johnson, Benefits Specialist
- John Hatton, Staff VP, Policy and Programs

CALIFORNIA FEDERATION TRAINING SESSIONS

- Jumpstart Your Recruitment
- Thrift Savings Plan Basics
- FEHB and Medicare
- Officer Duties
- FEDHub Basics
- What Members Need to Learn About NARFE
- Bylaws
- Congressional District Liaison Duties
- Treasurer's Duties

SILENT AUCTION BASKETS: As we have done in the past, we are encouraging District Vice Presidents (DVPs) and Chapters in those Districts to bring gift baskets for a silent auction that will be going on throughout the Tuesday and Wednesday full convention days. Bring your baskets to registration on Monday 6/23/25 in the afternoon or at the latest, Tuesday morning to Gregg Pericich (Ways and Means Chair) to be included in the auction. Please put your DVP District or Chapter name on each basket and the estimated value. Gregg will provide the silent auction rules and procedures when you check in, and they will be in your convention bag. Please consider participating in the silent auction as it raises funds to help pay for the convention and is a lot of fun and you may get to take home some wonderful gift baskets.

OTHER INTERESTING CONVENTION EVENTS: The idea is to have a lot of fun at this convention. So, we have added a few fun events:

A Baseball game Tuesday night at 7:00 pm at the Reno Aces (Arizona Diamondbacks AAA affiliate team) stadium is 3 blocks away from Silver Legacy (walkable). Tickets are \$16 and you can have a food/beverage option for \$10. We have 39 people who have already signed up and a few additional tickets are available when you check in. Those who have reserved tickets, please see Nels Christenson at registration on Monday afternoon and pay him with cash for your tickets and food/beverage. It is a very nice stadium and a lot of fun, and we will sit as a group at the game. If your family came with you, this would be a fun thing to do. Other ideas will be available on arrival.

Open House: We are doing an open house for Reno area active federal employees on Tuesday, 5:30 to 7:00 pm. We hope to attract a significant number of federal employees to tell them about NARFE and what we can do for them if they join. Numerous NARFE staff will attend to provide information for these federal employees and potential members.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Parking: It is free on levels 3 and higher with easy access to an elevator that will take you to the hotel check-in. On level 2 is a luggage drop-off where you can get a bellhop to take your luggage to your room. Also, on level 1 is a valet which may cost \$15 a stay.

Now if you do not want to think about parking, have you considered other means of transportation available to get to Reno depending on your home location, and your interests? If you are from southern California, maybe flying would be best for you. The airport in Reno is quite central, and the hotel has a shuttle that can pick you up. The train station is even closer for those who can get to a station reachable from home and it travels through very scenic country. There are also buses, but they would take a bit longer.

In your convention bags that you will receive when you check in at registration will be maps to the city of Reno, convention rooms, and restaurants in the Silver Legacy, Circus Circus and Eldorado, which all are connected and very short walks on the mezzanine level. There are many restaurants to choose from (fancy, average and reasonable).

Please come and help “Map Your Future” by joining us at the Silver Legacy in June.

Ronald Griffin, California State Federation President