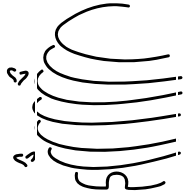




BEEHIVE CHIMES

Newsletter of UTAH FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS

APRIL 2014



Isabel Sullivan, Editor

www.narfeUtah.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our state convention is a little more than a month away, on May 15 and 16. So I hope our Federation chapter leaders have been making plans to attend and have ascertained how many delegates their chapter is going to send, i.e. one delegate for each 25 voting members in the chapter, plus the Chapter President, who is a Delegate-at-Large. Any chapter member in good standing is also eligible to attend, and is encouraged to do so.

We'll have lots to discuss, including upcoming changes with the Future of NARFE, which will include local, regional and national reorganization. Therefore we need as much participation as possible. One of the items on the agenda, which was not discussed at the last board meeting due to time restraints and the lack of a quorum, is our Federation website. We are in danger of losing it unless someone is willing to step in and replace Kathy Beutler, who would like to turn it over to a new manager. It's not being utilized as much as it should be, so we have a choice: a new manager or discontinue it and save the money it's costing us. If someone is interested and would like to know more about it please let me know and I'll put you in touch with Kathy so she can discuss the procedure.

Please remember that in lieu of a nominating committee, nominations for the offices of Federation President, Vice President (1st & 2nd), Secretary, & Treasurer will be open from the floor, as those 2 year terms are up and those offices need to be filled, so between now and May 15, dear readers, please discuss **"not what your Federation can do for you, but what you can do for your Federation."** To those of you who are still in the active workforce, due to the wonderful technological tools we have at our disposal, holding an office really wouldn't take much time and, thanks to those tools, even travel to meetings is no longer an absolute necessity, so your input would be very welcome.

You've all received your NARFE magazine and should read about the re-organization of our regions (on page 52), so you know Utah will be in Region IV, effective November 1, 2014. There are now two candidates for this region's Vice President, to be voted on at the NARFE National Convention in August. They are: Mr. Rodney Adelman from AZ, who will be visiting with us via Skype at our Federation convention, and Mr. Charles Stanphill from Oklahoma. If you receive GEMS messages, you received Mr. Stanphill's candidate statement on March 20th. More information on the reorganization will be forthcoming in future issues of the magazine and on-line reports, as well as at our Federation Convention. All members should take every opportunity to avail yourselves of this information to be prepared for the discussions and amendments presented at the National convention in Orlando.

I'd like to add that one of our most faithful members, at 91 years young, will again be acting as a Sergeant-at-Arms in Orlando; John Light from the Salt Lake chapter has served in that capacity for many of the National Conventions, greeting folks at the meeting room door, checking their credentials, assisting at the microphone, and other assigned tasks. THANKS, JOHN!!

Hoping to see many of you at the Holiday Inn Express in Layton! Registration form is on page 4.

Directions for the Holiday Inn Express in Layton: Going North on I-15, go past the first two Layton Exits. After the second, you will see the Layton Hills Mall on the right, then shortly after is the sign for the Holiday Inn. Take Exit 332 (Antelope Drive), turn right onto Antelope Drive (East), then turn right again on

the first street, University Parkway, (a frontage road). Follow it until you get almost to the Outback Steakhouse, turn left into the driveway for the Holiday Inn Express. The sign for it is next to the Outback.

Marla Ramey, Federation President, 435-882-3876

LEGISLATION

Beaudoin Urges Action to Defend FECA Beneficiaries, Health Benefits

NARFE opposes Senate legislation, S. 1486, to overhaul the U.S. Postal Service because of changes to Federal Employees' Compensation Act benefits that would affect all postal and federal employees who suffer from on-the-job injuries or illnesses. However, since the February 18 launch of an Action Alert on our Legislative Action Center, only about 2,000 NARFE activists have responded by sending a message to their senators. President Beaudoin asks each NARFE member to defend your benefits by using our Legislative Action Center to **send a message** to both your senators opposing S. 1486. Taking a moment to incorporate your own views in the letter will go further in strengthening our message.

Public Service Recognition Week is Around the Corner!

The first week in May has been designated Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) since 1985. It is a time to honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees, ensuring that our government is the best in the world. PSRW is organized annually by the **Public Employees Roundtable (PER)** and its member organizations, including NARFE.

On March 11, 2014, the Office of Personnel Management released its Strategic IT Plan. NARFE President Joseph A. Beaudoin released the following statement in response:

"The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) unveiled its promised and much-anticipated Information Technology (IT) strategic plan. OPM's IT infrastructure has long lagged behind the times, and previous modernization efforts have failed. We appreciate the new approach Director Archuleta is taking to deliver better services to federal agencies, employees and retirees.

"Key to the success of the new plan is adequate funding from Congress. Almost all of OPM's major initiatives require additional appropriations for both OPM and federal agencies. Successful implementation will ultimately save money in the long run, as electronics replace paper processing and manual data entry. NARFE encourages congressional oversight of the modernization process to ensure money is spent wisely. Additionally, we encourage OPM to post its progress in meeting the goals laid out in its new strategic plan, much as it does for retirement processing."

Again, review the NARFE magazine for a summary of the bills that NARFE is tracking. Please call your Congressman if you see something that is of concern to you, let them know your concerns.

Also, follow on Facebook: **NARFE National Headquarters**

Nancy Carlson-Gotts, 2nd Vice President, Legislative Chair

NEWS FROM CHAPTERS

SALT LAKE #0155: Our March 18th meeting was a presentation by Suzanne Tronnier, a Salt Lake County Library representative to tell us about all the services the library provides. On the web site you can find the following and more: Reader's Cafe (audio and books), Research Room (consumer reports, genealogy, language learning), Learning Express (tests, classes), Freegal (download music), Hoopla (movies online) and much more - it isn't just about books anymore.

Our April meeting will be a presentation on the upcoming changes to NARFE; The Future of NARFE Committee (FON) has issued a document with many recommendations to our organization and structure. One of those changes will happen is 10 Regions to 5 Regions. Other changes, such as only a President and Treasurer with an

executive will be discussed and voted on at the National Convention. We will also be discussing the proposed changes at the Federation meeting in May.

As usual, we'll meet at **1:00 pm, April 15, at the Mount Olympus Senior Center .**

Nancy Carlson-Gotts, President, 801- 582- 9373.

OGDEN #0320 Our next meeting will be **Friday, April 11, 2014, 1:00 PM, at the Sizzler Café.**

LuDean Burton, President

LAYTON #829: In March the chapter met at the Layton Library with 2 guest and 15 members present. We enjoyed a presentation from Mr. Brady Bouhuis, of J & J Nursery. He discussed the weed control, pruning and insect control.

Our next regular meeting will be at the **Layton Library at 1:00 PM on April 9, 2014.** Elections of Chapter Officers will be conducted. Carol Elkins, Utah State NARFE Service Officer, will talk about maximizing our benefits and answer questions.

Joan L. Turner, Secretary

BOUNTIFUL #0830: Rachael Krebs, a representative from Red Cross, was the guest speaker at our March 12th meeting. Rachael gave a very important presentation about Home Fire Safety. She also provided several helpful handouts.

Please contact Colleen Busenbark if you have books or DVD's to donate for the used book sale which will be held during the Convention May 15th & 16th. Colleen needs to have the books and DVD's by May 1.

Our next meeting will be held on **April 9, 1 p.m. at the Golden Years Center in Bountiful.** A report from the Arthritis Foundation will be given.

Joan Bohn, Secretary

CEDAR CITY #1205: Our guest speakers at our March meeting, with 14 members attending, were Ron Thurber and Caroline Brown from Hughes Account in Cedar City. Ron Thurber discussed estate planning focusing on issues many people overlook when estate planning. There are several different types of estates that can be set up, such as: Living Trust, Living Will and Special Needs Trust.

Ron suggested that everyone should make concise lists for their trustee. First, list your funeral and burial requests plus the name and location of any pre-death arrangements that you have made and where to locate documents. Keep a list of bank accounts, investments, property owned and location, all creditors and approximate amounts owed. Also advise the trustee where important documents can be found. All beneficiary information is a must, including name of beneficiary and how this person can be located. Frequent updates to this information are important.

Caroline Brown stated that anyone with an estate over \$100,000 should set up a living trust. Gift tax is assessed on gifts over \$14,000 per person per year. Several items under IRS authority changed for 2014. Affordable Health Care, itemization of medical expenses, gifts to charity and home inheritance. If your home is willed to your children, they pay capital gains tax on the difference between your original purchase price and fair market price of the home.

Don Holloway will officiate over the next two meetings. Dottie Stucker will take minutes. Our next meeting will be **April 7, 2014 at 12:00 PM at the Sizzler, Cedar City.**

Mitchell Gitz, President

UTAH FEDERATION 54th ANNUAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION

MAY 15 – 16, 2014

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS – 1695 WOODLAND PARK LANE, LAYTON, UT 84041

Reservations: Phone 801-773-3773 Room rate \$89.00 per night, includes Continental Breakfast. (One form per person, please -- May be duplicated, or spouse name may be submitted on separate, attached sheet. Please indicate by checkmark status of each attendee.)

Name _____ Chapter Name & Number _____

Address _____ Federation/Chapter Officer ____ Delegate ____

City, State, ZIP _____ Del. Alternate __ Guest ____ Non-delegate Member ____

Registration fee \$ 15.00 Banquet (Provided by Marie Callendar's Restaurant) \$25.00

Registration must be received before May 10, 2014. Make check payable to Layton NARFE, and send to: Joan L.Turner, 7366 South 1950 East, South Weber, UT 84405. Phone 801-475-7143, e-mail: joanlturner@q.com. Please indicate below the total amount enclosed.

Registration \$ _____ Banquet \$ _____ Total enclosed \$ _____

PHONE NUMBERS FOR UTAH'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Sen. Orrin Hatch

Washington, D.C. Office: (202) 224-5251

Salt Lake City Office: (801) 524-4380

Sen. Mike Lee

Washington, D.C. Office: (202) 224-5444

Salt Lake City Office: (801) 524-5933

Rep. Rob Bishop (District 1)

Washington D.C. Office: (202) 225-0453

Ogden Office: (801) 625-0107

Brigham City Office: (435)734-2270

Rep. Chris Stewart (District 2)-

Washington, D.C. Office: 202-225-9730

Salt Lake City Office: 801-364-5550

St. George Office: 435-627-1500

Rep. Jason Chaffetz (District 3)

Washington, D.C. Office: (202) 225-7751

Provo Office: (801) 851-2500

Rep. Jim Matheson (District 4)

Washington, D.C. Office: (202) 225-3011

West Valley Office: (801)486-1236

