

Washington State Federation of Chapters NARFE

May 25, 2010
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WSFC holds 2010 Annual Convention

A successful Washington State Federation of Chapters Convention, co-hosted by Everett and Northwest Cascade Chapters, was held in Everett on May 18 and 19, with 124 members around the state in attendance.

During the formal business meetings, delegates voted to accept the new Federation Bylaws and Standing Rules as proposed, with one exception. They agreed to hold the Federation convention every two years on even years, beginning in 2012. A Federation resolution calling for a national single dues proposal was also passed.

Officers elected include Sandy Cagle as WSFC President, Richard Wilson as Vice President, and Paul Shell as Secretary. There were no candidates for Treasurer, so incumbent Treasurer, Rex Tauscher, will remain in office until a replacement can be appointed. District Vice Presidents, who were previously elected at their District Workshops, include Terri Sanner, District 1; Quentin Gates, District 2; Bonnie Seesholtz, District 3; Bill Powers, District 4; and Steve Anderson District 5. Seven members of the Nominating Committee, which is now a standing committee, were also selected. They included Nancy Crosby, Francis Titus, Ida Sevier, Rhonda Sluys, Autie Bergman and Dave Seesholtz.

The term of office for the officers elected at this convention, and the District Vice Presidents, will be two years.

The approved Bylaws and Standing Rules are posted on the www.NARFEWA.Net web site.

A number of presentations were made during the convention.

NARFE Region 9 Vice President Lanny Ross gave both the National Officers keynote address and a regional report . He reported that on May 6, NARFE had 309,042 members, 24,186 of them active federal employees. Washington had 1107 AFEs. He also noted that by the end of April the NARFE total donation to Alzheimer's was \$8,604,479, and that during the first five quarters in the current 2009-2010 election cycle, nearly \$256,000 had been donated to NARFE-PAC, \$10,927 of that from 345 Washington NARFE members.

Congressman Rick Larson, (D), Washington's Second District, came by the convention early to meet members, but since he had to be back in D.C. for a vote, provided a video and his local staff member for the Legislative Luncheon. He is a co-sponsor of legislation to repeal GPO/WEP.

Sharon K. Appel, the OPM Benefits Officer Training and Development, spoke on OPM's Retirement Benefits Customer Services, their Services Online application, and outreach efforts. She also discussed some new agency "Going Green" initiatives.

The memorial Service, led by Richard Wilson, and supported by Sno-King Chapter, recognized the passing of 287 members during the past year. (Those names will be posted on the www.narfewa.net web site)

Arlene Patton, Chapter 32 President, gave a promotional presentation on the 2011 Federation Convention to be held in Spokane.

Four “break-out” session presentations were made on various topics by Federation personnel. Sandy Cagle, president, discussed aspects of leadership with “It’s Not My Job – But It Is”; Sam Cagle, public relations chair and webmaster, talked about public relations and recruiting, in “Mining for Prospects”; and Sam Sevier, national legislative chair, along with Don Binder, NARFE-PAC chair, spoke on how you can “Reach Out and Touch Your Congressmembers and Senators” as we prepare for August recess. Richard Wilson, vice-president, and Paul Shell, secretary, talked through the process of “Improving Your Use of NARFE.org and NARFEWA.net”,

All of these convention presentations are available online on www.NARFEWA.net.

The closing banquet speaker was Captain Thomas Mascolo, departing Commanding Officer, Naval Station Everett, who gave an entertaining and informative presentation on installation activities, working with his civilian and military personnel, and liaison with the community.

Convention participants reached into their pockets to support NARFE programs.

According to Don Binder, WSFC NARFE-PAC Chair, 35 convention attendees donated a total of \$1,155 to the NARFE-PAC fund for the state.

Drawings and other solicitations also resulted in \$298 that will be donated to the Federation Alzheimer’s program.

- NARFE – WSFC -