

57th Annual Convention of Oklahoma Federation of NARFE Chapter

April 15-17, 2010

Tulsa Hilton Southern Hills Hotel

Friday, April 16, 2010

The convention was called to order at 9:00 AM by Madge Wilson, President of host Chapter 2184. She welcomed the delegates and then introduced Jeff Vaughan, the Master of Ceremonies. John Spencer led the Invocation. The Jenks High School Jr. Air Force ROTC posted the colors and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Van Horton, VIP Handler, introduced our welcome guest, Mayor of Tulsa Dewey Bartlett. Van responded with a Thank You to the Mayor.

President of the Oklahoma Federation, Charles Stanphill, was introduced by Jeff Vaughan. President Stanphill also welcomed the delegates and introduced Jerry Ryan, Sgt. at Arms and his committee. They will be available to help during the meeting. He then introduced National President Margaret Baptiste, who appeared at the convention by electronic video media. She encouraged the delegates to learn all they could about modern communication at this convention, since this was the theme of this year's meeting. Charles pointed out that since we were not authorized a National officer at our convention this year due to budget restraints, Margaret's comments by video were appropriate, cost effective and in-keeping with our theme of modern digital communication.

Frank Impinna, Candidate for National Treasurer, was present today only at our meeting and was given an opportunity to speak on behalf of his campaign. He gave an energetic message and answered questions.

Charles introduced Region VI Vice-President Jerry Hatfield, who then spoke to us about issues at the National level. As we all know, membership losses are large all across the nation, but a few Federations are beginning to show positive growth. So there is hope that the bottom has been reached in this trend. He pointed out that continued training for recruiting and retention methods is still very important.

After a 15 minute break, John and Susan Spencer led the Memorial Service for deceased members from 2009. Each District Vice-President read the names of the deceased from the chapters in his district after bringing a bouquet of flowers to the front in their honor. There were 145 reported deaths in the federation last year.

Nancy Stanphill, Federation Secretary, called the roll of the chapters and Federation Officers. The response from the chapters as to the number of their delegates present, determined the final voting delegate count for this convention. This information was passed on to the Credentials Committee chairman for tally.

Then, Nancy read the minutes from the last convention. The minutes were approved as read.

The Treasury report was given by Robert Oltmanns, Federation Treasurer. He pointed out that our generous incentive awards program is being used, but by only a few chapters. He encouraged all chapters to make use of these incentives to help with recruitment. The amount of funds available in all accounts totals \$35,965.48. The Federation budget has been running a deficit balance for several years, but this trend will need to be checked soon.

The Federation President and Region VI Vice-President were pleased to honor Dorothy Cassel with the Service Officer Award from our state and region. She was presented with a citation from each signed by the National President. As the winner of these awards, Dorothy will compete with other regional winners for the national award to be presented at the National Convention in August.

After a lunch break, our special guests were introduced by Charles. Besides Frank Impinna and Jerry Hatfield, those guests present were Jo Hatfield, wife of Jerry, Ray Harrington, candidate for National Secretary, and Kathy Stanphill, who served as our technical advisor for the multimedia used at this convention.

Charles Stanphill then presented his State of the Federation address. He listed and commented on several issues related to our assets, our accomplishments and our goals. He pointed out that cost cutting efforts were implemented this year by cutting back on executive meetings. Much of the business of the Federation was accomplished by electronic means. An outline of his message is included in the records.

In keeping with our theme of modern communication, Nancy Stanphill gave an Introduction to Computers. Starting from the basics of purchasing a computer and internet service, she then spoke about the benefits of using the state Federation website and how the material there can be utilized to make you a better informed member. A live demonstration of the website was shown as she spoke about its features.

The program then continued with the Seminar Reports. These reports were presented by Johnny Hanlon, Membership; Charles Stanphill, President; Service Officer, Dorothy Cassel; Historian, Nancy Watson; Alzheimer's, Betty Lowrey; National Legislation, Dale Cassel; State Legislation, James Crowder; Treasurer, Robert Oltmanns; Secretary, Nancy Stanphill; First-

Timers, Rubie Hokanson; and Newsletters, John Hokanson. Available written reports are included in the records.

After a 15 minute break, National Website Training was conducted by Johnny Hanlon. He navigated a live demonstration of the website as he spoke about its features. He particularly pointed out how to get to and use the reports available from National. These reports are an important adjunct to every officer's duty performances.

The Committee Reports were given next. The presenters were as follows: Ed Farris, Teller and Ballot, who stated that his committee would function at this convention in the event of a necessary delegate stand-up count; Alyce Green, Credentials, who reported that out of 35 chapters in the Federation, 27 were represented by delegates, and out of 235 possible delegate votes, 102 were present--10 guests were present for a total of 112 attendees; James Olden, Time and Place, who stated that the convention next year would tentatively take place in Midwest City on April 14-16, 2011; Dale Cassel, Audit, who stated that the financial records appeared in proper order; Nancy Watson, Nominating, reported for Nancy Vaughan, in her absence, stating that the function of this committee next year will help determine whether the candidates for Federation offices are qualified--each member of this committee will continue serving to next year; Jerry Ryan, Sergeant-at-Arms, stated that his committee was there to help members and to be sure that only delegates voted; Charles Stanphill, Advisory Council, reported for Jeff Vaughan in his absence, stated that more Federation board meetings were recommended and more reporting of membership information in the newsletter is needed; James Crowder, Resolutions, reporting for Jeff Vaughan in his absence, stated that no resolutions were pre-submitted by chapters this year, but one will be presented from the floor.

The District Caucus Reports were presented by the District Vice-Presidents as follows: Jean Samuels, Dist. I; Roy Hicks, Dist. II; Harold Moore, Dist. III; Marilyn Componation, Dist. IV; and James Olden, Dist. V. Each felt that productive progress had been accomplished, but that other problems existed. These problems would be addressed in this next year.

The convention was recessed at 4:10 PM and will resume at 9:00 AM tomorrow.

Saturday, April 17, 2010

The convention reconvened and was called to order at 8:50 AM. John Spencer gave the invocation and Van Horton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jerry Hatfield commented on the condition of each Federation in our region, concentrating on his recent visit to Panama. Their issues are very different from other Federations since they don't have representation in Congress.

Time was given to candidates running for National offices. Ron Cannefax spoke on behalf of Jerome Smith who is running for Region VI Vice-President. Ray Harrington, who is a candidate for National Secretary, gave a campaign speech and answered questions.

Jeff Vaughan presented an amendment to the constitution from Chapter 2333, which would call for a convention to be held every other year on odd number years. Cost cutting and lack of support for hosting a convention were reasons given for such a change. After questions and discussion, a voice vote was taken. This vote was inconclusive, so a standing count was conducted. There were 39 for and 40 against. The motion failed to get the 2/3 majority in the affirmative to pass. This amendment is included in the records.

James Crowder read the final PAC report which stated that \$4066.00 was collected from the Federation during this year's campaign.

The Alzheimer's report and prize drawing was conducted by Betty Lowrey and Minnie Haefner. The non-official amount collected from the sales totaled \$917.08. People were still buying, so the official total is not complete.

Charles introduced Rubie Hokanson, the convention chairperson. She was thanked for her superior handling of the details of the convention. She then introduced her committee members and thanked them for their valuable help.

James Olden, Time and Place chairman, reported that the convention would be hosted next year by Chapter 0946, but that no plans were in place for 2012. Ron Cannefax, President of Chapter 0946, spoke about the plans for next year's convention to be held in Midwest City tentatively on April 14-16, 2011. It will most likely be held at the Reed Center.

Jean Samuels, President of Chapter 0278, presented a Distinguished Member award to Joe Vazzo. This award is given in recognition of longtime service in NARFE. Joe has been a model to other members in his dedication to our organization.

Final comments and announcements were made by Charles Stanphill and Jerry Hatfield. The Benediction was spoken by John Spencer. The convention was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Nancy Stanphill

Federation Secretary