

CONVENTION DAILY SUMMARY DAY 2
CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS
TUESDAY MAY 3, 2017

Convention General Session

Crystal Ballroom

9:05 a.m. **Call to Order**
Dee Shallenberger, CSFC President

9:06 a.m. **Moment of Silence**

9:07 a.m. **Pledge of Allegiance**
Andy Morgen,
Federation Past President,

Sing: God Bless America

Accompanied by Bob Boucher

Credentials Committee Final Report

Vivian Nathanson, Chair

146 Delegates

17 Delegates at Large

0 Alternate Delegates

1 National Officer

22 Visitors & Guests

-3 Delegates also serving as Chapter Representatives

183 Total Number of Persons Registered

78 Chapters

54 Chapters representatives by delegates

24 Chapters represented by proxy

14 Executive Board members(DAL)

6 Past Presidents (DAL)

763 Total Number of Potential Votes Present

9:13 a.m.

Voting Results

Ann McCraw, Ballot & Tellers Chair

PRESIDENT LEA ZAJAC
VICE PRESIDENT JUDY MAYORA
SECRETARY SANDY MATHIAS
TREASURER YOGI RILEY

DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENTS

1. ROBERT "OLD BOB" DAVIDSON
2. GREG PERICICH
3. MARY VENERABLE
5. GERALD HALL
6. DOTTY SCHMIDT
7. BOB MARTIN (was announced after lunch)
8. LINDA INGRAM
9. MIKE SIMINSKI
10. RON GRIFFIN

Special thanks to Will Patton for all the work he has done.

9:21 a.m.

Acceptance Speech by President Lea Zajac. He appreciates the confidence in elected him as Federation President and intends to work more on Legislation and work with the Chapters to contact their legislators and fill the 53 District Leader positions.

Acceptance Speech by Sandy Mathias. Introduced politicians during the San Luis Obispo Convention. This led to becoming a CDL. Looking forward to serving you to protect our benefits.

9:30 a.m.

National Legislation Update, Grassroots Advocacy Presentation Go-To-Meeting via internet

Molly Checksfield, NARFE Grassroots
Program Manager (703)838-7760 x201
leg@NARFE.org

The federal community has contributed \$120 billion toward deficit reduction.

Extensive presentation covered history, legislative accomplishments, and what lies ahead.

Numerous threats to federal employees and retirees were prevented. In the 2013 budget agreement, there was no impact on current FEDS and retirees.

NARFE was named as having one of the top 10 lobbying victories in 2013.

We started 114th Congress requesting for \$318 billion in cuts. Threats included changes to FEHBP and decrease TSP G fund rate of return. New hires contribute 6 times more than employees before 2013. 2-year budget deal had no federal employee or retiree impact.

Success should be judged by what happened as well as what did not happen. After 7 years of constant attacks, we have not lost anything. Accomplishments include reduction of the 52% Medicare premium increase, preventing the change to Chained-CPI, Extended Identity theft protection for those impacted by the Data Breach, Postal Reform Bill has not moved forward. FY2017 has seen Congress occupied by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The big battle will come in FY 2018.

115th Congress. Many members of Congress believe federal benefits are "too generous".

60 votes in Senate required to move bills forward. Our best defense. However, under Budget Reconciliation only requires 50 votes and is not subject to filibuster. Greatest threat Is in FY18 – FY19. Postal reform bill has been reintroduced by Congressman Jason Chaffetz. It has bipartisan support. Forces postal retirees to enroll in Medicare Part B or lose FEHBP

coverage. This sets a precedent. If they can do it to them, they can do it to us. We must work with various committees with oversight. Our benefits were earned fairly. The promise should be broken. 1st priority is to fight Postal Reform. Defend against a broad attack of pay cuts and benefit reductions. This is not the way to attract the best and the brightest to federal service. There are opportunities to gain ground including WEP reform and in making the Medicare Premium Hold Harmless a permanent fix.

Grassroots is an important part of Advocacy.

Congress cares what we think. They need our support for reelection. Convince our legislators that these issues matter to us. Pressure our opponents, support our friends. Build on past success.

The new Legislative Action Center is easy to use and effective. Use it to send action letters and to report congressional contacts. Important to personalize letters rather than just send the form letters.

Other Actions:

Telephone legislators via Capitol Hill Switchboard (866) 220-0044 will connect you to your legislators based on your zip code. When you call, state that you are a constituent and a NARFE member. Co-ordinate with other NARFE members.

CDL's should meet with chapters.

When you visit legislators, leave issue papers. Report your results to NARFE Headquarters.

10:30 a.m.

Training – Congressional Districts/CDLs George Ramirez, CSFC
Legislative Chair

Congressional District Leaders (CDL) are the liaison between the congressional offices and the chapters within a congressional district. By mobilizing and coordinating members of different chapters for various forms of advocacy such as congressional meetings, letter writing, emails, the impact of NARFE in influencing legislators can be increased.

When meeting with legislators, use the highest number of retirees and Active Federal Employees available when giving the number of people you represent. The legislators pay attention to numbers.

The CDL manual is on the CSFC web site. NARFE annually publishes a list of how various legislators voted. Generally, Democrats support NARFE issues 80% of the time while Republicans support NARFE issues 20% of the time. Federal retirements take about 3% of the Budget. 33% of new hires are veterans. 47% of DOD new hires are veterans. 113,000 veterans work for the USPS.

Chapter Centric Advocacy

Get members to act. CDL contacts chapter legislative chair to mobilize members.

Digital Transformation

Congress is active on social media. Tele-Town Hall meetings are safer than some in-person meetings.

11:15 a.m.

Membership – Recruiting and Retention Learn the secrets of recruiting potential members and how to retain the members you already have.

Jerry Hall, District V Vice President San Francisco Chapter
#65

12:15p.m.-1:25 p.m. **Lunch (on your own)**

2:00 p.m. **Region VIII Report**

Crystal Ballroom

Helen Zajac, Region VIII VP
Vallejo Chapter #16

We must put an end to carrying grudge against national division members. Some have legitimate reasons for not joining chapters. Some meetings do not provide value to members attending. Chapter meetings should provide members with what they need. Is your meeting worth going to? Consider a special brainstorming meeting to determine what your members are looking for. You can get some ideas from the Chapter and Federations Officers Manual, F-10. See Appendix A for a checklist of chapter operations. See what you can do to improve meeting attendance and participation and keep chapters active. Consider thanking members for membership and let them know what the chapter provides for the member. Keep members informed with monthly newsletter. Keep engaged with community. The National Division members pay the Federation for service and the Federations should consider how they can provide service to those members. We are all NARFE members. Come together and work together to improve NARFE.

This report was interrupted and the following was given at a later time

A new executive director has been hired and reports for duty on May 15th. A press release in on the NARFE Web site. She is a little dynamo, full of energy and enthusiasm. This is the result of the Strategic Planning Committee recommendation. She will be responsible for everything that occurs inside the building.

Membership

As of March 31st Region 8 has 22,678 members and 5,525 National members. National members account for 25% of the membership.

In California, there are 18,478 members and 4,413 National members. National members account for 24% of the membership.

The potential membership in California is 420,417 offering many chances to recruit. The recruiting Power Point presented by Jerry Hall will be posted on the federation web site.

The new renewal letters give members the option of renewing for 1 year for \$40, 2 years for \$72 or 3 years for \$102. The letter also says, "You can join NARFE" or "Join NARFE and a chapter for "\$45, \$82 or \$117".

On the back of the letter is a dues withholding form. Several members have inadvertently become National only members. Advise chapter members to be careful when filling out the renewal letter/form.

Bob Davidson II Chapter 455 asked if headquarters will tailor each letter to the chapter's local dues. Answer: Yes, the letter will include the local dues of the chapter of record.

This report was again interrupted at 3:48 p.m.. A written speech will be prepared and distributed at a later date.

2:09 Vice President District 7 election result Bob Martin Delta Chapter

2:10 p.m.-3:10 p.m. **Leadership Seminars – *Four Seminars Conducted Concurrently***

Understanding and providing benefits Nevada 1

Information to members, including

Service Officer Basics

Mary Venerable, CSFC Service Committee Chair

Yoggi Riley, Service Committee

Chapter Leadership Nevada 3

Learn how to be an enthusiastic and

Exciting Chapter Leader

Dottie Schmidt, District VI Vice President

Grass Valley Chapter #1335

Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

*Dynamic Duos – what you need to
Know – tips, tools, and techniques*
Forney Lundy, Past Region VIII VP

**Nevada
11**

Developing Dynamic Communication Tools

Social Media, Email, Websites, Newsletters
Nancy Bergren, Secretary & Webmaster
Antelope Valley-Lancaster Chapter #877
Mary Alice Burkhard
San Fernando Chapter #61

**Nevada
2**

3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Training - 75 Minute Meeting**

For all officers and members *Learn how to conduct a crisp,
and interesting meeting in less than two hours*
Lea Zajac, Convention Chair

With the help of numerous assistants including Ann McCraw, Yogi Riley, George Ramirez, Jerry Hall, Linda Ingram, Bob Davidson II, Greg Percich, Dotty Schmidt, Vaudis Pennell. Lea led a simulated chapter meeting covering the important topics of following an agenda, having officers prepared with individual reports, keeping the meeting moving and providing an informative, entertaining meeting.

Lea and his team also offered the following for meetings:

1. The American Flag should be on the right side of the speaker with the eagle facing the audience.
2. **God before country** This invocation/moment of silence should occur before the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Assign the Service Officer or another member to be a greeter to welcome visitors and 1st time attendees.
4. Telephone calls to members just to check in and invite to meetings will boost attendance and show members that the chapter is interested in them.

Lea also recognized a National member **Ann Russel** who is attending the convention at her own expense. She was given a round of applause. She also attended the Legislative Conference at her own expense. Ann advised she had a friend 18 years ago who encouraged her to get involved. She is looking for a chapter.

4:35 p.m.

Recognition of Members / Hotel Staff

Dee Shallenberger

Susan Donahue Senior Convention Service Manager. Staff complimentary of NARFE members. Enjoyed working with NARFE in the past. Enjoyed working with Mr. Thissen. Also enjoyed working with Helen and Lea Zajac. Hopes we come back.

Lea Zajac thanked:

Jerry Hall, George Ramirez, trainers.

Jim Mathews produced Daily Summaries

Bob Grimm Recording Secretary

Mary Alice Burkhard from the Legislative Coalition

Richard Thissen NARFE President

Forney Lundy, Mary Venerable, Dottie Schmidt, Nancy Bergren for making presentations

Thanks to all who worked so hard to make this convention a success.

Thanks to Tulare County, CA for providing the treats of dried fruit and nuts that were included in the participants welcome bags.

Lu Johnson Chapter 669 wished to thank Sandra Lawing in Member Records for all her help. Helen Zajac concurred.

4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

New Business

Dee Shallenberger
CSFC President

Helen Zajac presented Dee Shallenberger with a plaque recognizing her service as federation president.

Dee led the group in singing "Happy Birthday" to those having birthdays this month. The Sergeant at Arms Joann Wiest thanked her committee for their service including: Arlene Jess, Doris Roberts, Joe Padua, Bob Cook, Marcos Torres and Joseph Breyer

Good of the Federation

Dee Shallenberger

4:48 p.m. Jerry Hall stated photographs taken during the convention will be made available online in a couple of weeks. Also thanks to Lea Zajac for his work as convention chair.

Closing Remarks Dee Shallenberger

Thanks to Lea Zajac for all his work as Convention Chair

Thanks to Lea & Helen Zajac. No other couple spends more time on NARFE

Retire Colors

Chief Sergeant-At-Arms

Crystal Ballroom

4:52 p.m.

Adjourn – *Sine Die*

Dee Shallenberger

Alzheimer's Drawings \$121 & \$81 & Quilt

Quilt raised \$600.

Cash drawing raised \$404 net \$202 after prizes.

Total raised \$802.

Rose Utterback, Vallejo Chapter 16

Made and donated the quilt.

So Far, NARFE has raised \$12.2 Million and funded 71 research projects

Today, Alzheimer's strikes Every 66 seconds.

In 2050 it will be every 33 seconds

The 2017 budget just allocated \$400 million for Alzheimer's

California donated more than \$25,000

San Diego Chapter 4 donated \$2,284

Mount Diablo/Concord Chapter 531 donated \$1,795

Vallejo Chapter 16 \$1,252
Highest per capita amount Lompoc Chapter 1087 @ \$8.95

Ways/Means – 50/50 Drawing, Door Prize Drawing
Kaye Brown, Chair
Assisted by Jeri Benson

Opportunity Drawing

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| \$2017 | Jack Baldwin, Chapter 4 |
| \$500 | Dorothy Wilson, Chapter 1718 |
| \$250 | Joyce Johnson, Chapter 1982 |
| \$100 | Watson Chapter, 2025 |
| Gift Bag Donated by Kaiser | Jim Mathews, Chapter 0970 |
| Gift Bag Donated by Kaiser | Juanita T, Chapter 2323 |
| Gift Bag Donated by Kaiser | Joanne Cabot, Chapter 1497 |