CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS
2011 CONVENTION

3rd DAY, MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2011

CONVENTION IN SESSION

9:00 AM - Andrew Morgen, CSFC President Called the Convention to Order

Clark Minnis, Mt. Baldy Chapter 1497, conducted the Invocation. Andy presented Clark with a certificate of appreciation.

Lea Zajac, CSFC District VII Vice President, led the Pledge of Allegiance

Jack Lopez, San Bernardino Valley Chapter # 0073, accompanied by Rufus Fairley, Mt. Baldy Chapter #1497 on Key Board, led God Bless America. Andy presented Jack and Rufus with certificates of appreciation.

Joann Wiest, Chief Sergeant-at-Arms, made some administrative announcements.

Vivian Nathanson, Voting Credentials Committee, made the Final Report after thanking her committee. There are 1028 total votes available of the 1028 possible. Report voted approved.

Vaudis Pennell, Chair, Nominating Committee, announced the Election Results for District VP Officers, after thanking her committee members

District I VP – Bob Davidson II, Chapter 455
District II VP - Charlie Mattis, Chapter 2323
District III VP – Lenore Manak, Chapter 73
District IV VP – Polly Stonich, Chapter 397
District V VP – Lennie Lund, Chapter 50
District VI VP – Mary Jo Smith, Chapter 1503
District VII VP – Lea Zajak, Chapter 16
District VIII VP - Norm McCracken, Chapter 61
District IX VP – Judy Mayora, Chapter 1306
District X VP – Karen Baird, Chapter 1655

Warren Savage, Jr., Chair, made the General Resolutions Committee Report. General Resolution 1, to eliminate the just-introduced CSFC Memorial Booklet, and an Amendment, failed. Andy presented Warren with a certificate of appreciation.

Mary Venerable, SW Riverside County Chapter #0478, Chair, made the Service Committee Report. Not every chapter has a service officer. She sends the Service officer newsletter by email, to Presidents if service officer does not have email. Service officers can be recruiting method. California should have large number of service officers for National Service Officer Award, but haven't had that many candidates. Arthur Crognale Oroville Chapter 352, received

Region VIII and CSFC Service Awards (in absentia). Andy presented Mary with a certificate of appreciation. Andy also presented Jo Murphy with a certificate of appreciation.

Yoggi Riley, Region VIII Pre-retirement Seminars (PRS) Coordinator, reported.
66 PRS conducted nationwide by NARFE last year. Helps recruit members who are likely to be more impacted by current proposed cuts. Had information handouts about spreading the word about PRS program. Bernice Minnis commented that some agencies think of us as a union. Yoggi said downsizing of and consolidation of personnel offices makes it hard to get approval for PRS. Another member suggested that employee organizations like Air Traffic Controllers Organization. Another member reported success in making a presentation at a local Social Security office. Andy presented Yoggi with a certificate of appreciation.

10:00 AM - Bob Davidson II, Active Employee Liaison, Mt. Palomar Chapter #0455, reported on Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). Bob was in CSRS for a short time, switched to FERS for financial benefits of Thrift Savings Plan because of matching contribution portion. Proposed legislation (HR466) is to remove annuity portion of FERS. You need to keep watch on the different TSP funds to not lose money. The L funds provide some protection as funds are adjusted based on age and risk. FERS annuity is 1% per year of service up to age 62. No COLA until 62. Deposit required for military service. Must have 5 years in health plan before retiring to keep it. TSP may change to require 10% contribution before matching. There are three parts to FERS: Annuity, Social Security, and TSP. You must be in the TSP to have a decent retirement. Important to make deposit to get credit for military time, also for temporary service, and don't delay or there will be interest charged. Andy presented Bob II with a certificate of appreciation.

Ann McCraw, Ballot & Tellers Committee Chair, did not have Instructions for Voting as all issues were already decided .

Alice Falls, Fresno Chapter #45, Chair Audit Committee, reported. As of March 31, cash and savings, $81870. Many other numbers were stated, will probably appear in the formal minutes. Bottom line, everything is correct. Report voted approved. Andy presented Alice with a certificate of appreciation.

10:35 AM – since there was time available, Andy continued with the questions left over from yesterday's session. Lea Zajac, moderator.

Is federation considering dropping per-capita dues? Don't know, membership may drop after dues increase. May suspend, not drop. (Have lost 2.1% in 3 months)

Do National Officers get paid? Yes, National Officers get between $107,000 and $96,000. They have to support two homes, and they do work 40 hrs a week. Regional VPs also get paid around $23,000.

Does NARFE advertise in national newspapers and magazines? No, too costly. USA Today charges are $125,000 for a B/W full page ad, and up. Annual PR budget only $225,000.

Do Federation officers get paid? No, but they get reimbursed for expenses and travel. Their time is volunteered. Treasurer and Secretary get a

Will NARFE provide info on e-members living in their territory? Federation may receive info because they get some money for the e-members.

Does NARFE use Facebook? Yes, and it's monitored at HQ.

Are membership chairpersons eligible for Super Recruiter pins? Yes, also eligible for the $10

Are donations to Protect America's Heartbeat deductible? No

Any program to get more local recognition? Use PR program, write letters to the editor, support Alzheimers, sport teams.

Can new member immediately go on dues withholding? Yes, use the green membership form.

Could NARFE General Store bring merchandise to conventions? Yes, upon invitation.

If General Store does sell at a convention, can they share profits, can they be charged for a table? Maybe, and yes.

Did committee consider that this is Palm Sunday weekend? Palm Sunday didn't appear as a holiday on the calendar, not thought of. Why no time allowed for church and no list of churches? There was a list posted.

What is the status of redistricting. Decision passed to new offices for consideration at next Executive Board meeting.

Can Active Employees go on dues withholding? No, but they may be able to take allotments, or make arrangements with their bank. Maybe can use the online dues renewal for annual payment.

Is there a Convention evaluation form? No, make comments directly to Convention Chair or Andy.

Joann Wiest, Chief Sergeant-at-Arms, made some administrative announcements. Sold $485 in used books, collected $700 total for Alzheimers.

11:30 am – 1:00 pm - Break for Lunch

1:00 pm - Andrew Morgen, CSFC President, called the convention to order.

Don Ross, Team Coordinator, CSFC Chapter RevitalizationTeam. Before1987, records were not well kept on chapters in trouble, now are . Chapters in trouble should contact District VP who can get them help. VP contacts Federation. Chapter members must vote on closing a chapter and on the funds. If closed, members will be assigned to another nearby chapter unless they submit a

F-84 to choos a chapter. All financial obligations must be met. Remaining funds should be sent to National, to be in escrow for 5 years. California Secretary of State to be notified if incorporated.

Lack of key officers can be a problem. Can operate without a president, and Revitalization Team will help. One chapter survived for 3 years without officers except treasurer, but now has revived.

26% of chapters in NARFE do not have a membership chair. Others had someone assigned, but also had multiple jobs. FH-19 membership manual is an excellent plan if followed.

Need to get key people to fill positions. Key people need to find their replacements; Need to get people to come to meetings. CSFC web site has suggestions; Increase membership – difficult if not many federal agencies. Many LSA and non-members may be in the area; Recruiting – used to give a pitch on NARFE at VA Hospital.

Andy presented Don with a certificate of appreciation.

1:30 PM Lea Zajac, CSFC Convention Site Coordinator, reported on 2013 Convention Sites. To save money, Federation thought about redistricting, not done. Also thought about having a 2 day instead of a 3 day committee because there are less resolutions. Committees can do work before the convention. Now not many volunteering for committees. Next convention will be 2 days, no morning for committee meetings. Will save lodging, will combine President Lunch with banquet. Convention will be compressed fit in 2 days in 2013.

Questions from the floor about first timer orientation (may not happen) and Open Forum (maybe send in before conventions).

Federation was contacted by a company that does the research on convention sites. This company gets our proposal, then sends it out to 38 hotels, 25 responded. After eliminated those charging over $120, there were 10 to evaluate. The final 4 were asked for best rate, Doubletree was $84, Hilton was $94. Doubletree facility was visited and found acceptable to our needs, so was chosen by Board. The company gets no money from us, they get a percent from the Hotel.

Next convention will be May 3 (Friday) and May 4 (Sat.), 2013, and the rate will be $84 + tax.

Andy presented Lea with a certificate of appreciation.

NARFE- CAL NET Report, Carl Bailey, Ventura County Chapter #0190, CA NARFE-Net Coordinator. Has been NARFE-Net coordinator since 2004. He sends out GEMS messages for the Federation President. Federation has 27,000 members, only 4000+ email addresses. Not everyone gives us his or her address. Get address to him to get GEMS messages from National and Federation. Carl also maintains the Federation F7 database, need to get the info to Carl or Federation Secretary. He can help chapters get electronic M-112 and M-114 online.

Mary Venerable needs help getting Service Officer Newsletter distributed; Carl said she should go through the Federation President and he would send it.

Andy presented Carl and his assistant Tony Pizza with certificates of appreciation.

Werner Gumpert, Mt. Diablo Chapter #0531, CSFC Web Master, NARFE Web Site Report. He proposed a web site, and consequently got the job. The site doesn't get a lot of hits, 60-70 a day. Much information is available and should be used. Service officer newsletters and index, NARFE-Pac reports, site map, Federation Bylaws, and other publications. Andy presented Werner with a certificate of appreciation.

2:15 pm - Unfinished Business
Expecting some answers from Dan Adcock to written questions
Thanks to Earl Krone for arranging for the CATP presentation

New Business
Calif FTB now requires a tax form like IRS. Gems message was sent describing the electronic postcard filing.

Good of the Federation
Bob Davidson, complimented for creating an excellent Convention Booklet
Hotel support was outstanding in all ways
Prizes will be ready as soon as tickets are drawn
Bernice Minnis and Andy Morgen were complimented

Andrew Morgen, CSFC President, conducted Hall of Fame Presentation.
Forney Lundy, Salinas Chapter #1496, Past CSFC President and Past Region VIII National Field Vice President, was inducted.

Recognition of Special Assistants,
Chief & Sergeant-At-Arms, Jo Ann Wiess, Chapter 2025
Parliamentarian, Recorder, Ed Shallenberger, Chapter 50
Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Nick Shestople, Chapter 478
Time Keepers , Karen Baird, Chapter 1655, Doug Wilcox Chapter 455
Hotel Staff , Mary Isaac, Hilton Hotel Conference Planning manager

Andrew Morgen, CSFC President made Closing Remarks
Two years have gone fast, have had great support, like this convention where members did a great job, even if they had never done it before. NARFE's political clout comes from the grassroot active efforts of the members. The "E" is silent, we are not. If we don't know Congress they won't know us. Personal contact important. Thanks to wife Dolly, and all chapter members at meetings he visited, and federation executive board. Every attendee here should get a letter of appreciation.

2:37 pm - Andrew Morgen, CSFC President, Adjourned the Convention – sine die (Adjournment sine die (from the Latin "without day") means "without assigning a day for a further meeting or hearing")

Faye Chow, Palm Springs Chapter # 0587, OTR Game Manager, announced the Old Time Radio Game Winner Polly Stonich.

Vaudis Pennell, Ways and Means Chair, conducted the drawing of convention prizes. The Grand Prize of $2011 was won by Yvette Krogh of Chapter 190. Other big winners were: $500 to M. Deike, Chapter 188; $250 to G. Lieder Chapter 1718;, $100 to Jo Murphy Chapter 706.

California Federation Banquet is planned for the evening. Forney Lundy, Past CSFC President, will be Master of Ceremonies. Joe Beaudoin, NARFE National President, will conduct the Officer Installation Ceremony.