

MISSISSIPPI STATE FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS, INC., NARFE
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 12, 1998
SUN AND SAND MOTEL, JACKSON, MS

PRESIDENT TOM JOHNSON CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10 A.M. CHAPLAIN DICK SHAVE GAVE THE INVOCATION AND LED THE GROUP IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

THE BOARD ACCEPTED THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AS WRITTEN, EXCEPT THAT THE TOTAL CASH ON HAND, 10/6/97, SHOULD READ \$15,228.16.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

TOM JOHNSON, PRESIDENT
JACK THOMAS, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
LOIS THOMAS, SECRETARY
ROY STEWART, TREASURER
DICK SHAVE, CHAPLAIN
DAVID MYERS, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
BILL HODGE, EDITOR
MARY SINDERS, DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 5
JOHN CLARK, ALZHEIMERS CHAIRMAN AND BUILDING FUND COORDINATOR
JIM YONGE, LEGISLATIVE (NATIONAL) CHAIRMAN
KENNETH COOK, DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 3
AUBREY MILSTEAD, DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 1
EUELL DICKARD, LEGISLATIVE (STATE) CHAIRMAN
PAULINE CHANCELLOR, DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 4
HELEN THOMAS, SECRETARY-ELECT
RUTH LOGAN, GUEST

TREASURER ROY STEWART GAVE A FULL REPORT ON FEDERATION FINANCES. THE FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 10/6/97 THRU 2/11/98 WAS:

STATE FEDERATION FUNDS	\$10,814.88
NATIONAL 10% FUNDS	4,596.89
TOTAL CASH ON HAND	<u>\$15,411.77</u>

THE TREASURER EXPLAINED THAT IF THE BUDGET IS SHORT IN ONE AREA AND OVER IN ANOTHER, HE CAN TRANSFER FUNDS TO MEET THE FEDERATION'S NEEDS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. THE BUDGET WAS APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR BILL HODGE SAID THAT THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER WOULD BE MAILED NEAR THE FIRST OF APRIL. WRITE-UPS FOR THE PUBLICATION SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 15. THE ISSUE WILL FEATURE THE 1998 FEDERATION CONVENTION AT LAKE TIAK O'KNATA. MR. HODGE ALSO REPORTED THERE ARE 29 MEMBERS IN 13 CHAPTERS WHO HAVE AGREED TO BE ON THE MISSISSIPPI NARFE-NET.

RAY SARTOR WAS NOT PRESENT, BUT SENT WORD THAT HE HAD NO RESOLUTIONS TO PRESENT.

HELEN NIXON, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, SENT A REPORT BY JACK THOMAS WHICH INDICATED THERE WERE 46 NEW MEMBERS, BUT LOST SEVEN BY DEATH AND 14 FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES. LETTERS WERE MAILED TO 28 MEMBERS WHO WERE DROPPED OR RECEIVED THIRD NOTICE FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES. PRESIDENT TOM JOHNSON ADDED THAT THE COAST IS GAINING SOME MEMBERS FROM THE PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINARS.

JIM YONGE, NATIONAL LEGISLATION CHAIRMAN, LED THE DISCUSSION OF THE FEDERAL RETIREMENT BEING ON OR OFF BUDGET. HE URGED US TO STUDY LEGISLATION ON THIS VERY CAREFULLY AND THEN CONTACT LEGISLATORS. HE PRESENTED SOME VERY INTERESTING THOUGHTS AND OBVIOUSLY HAS DONE MUCH RESEARCH. MR. YONGE PREPARED A DRAFT OF A RESOLUTION STATING THAT THE FEDERAL RETIREMENT REMAIN ON-BUDGET UNTIL WE HAVE GOOD REASON TO CHANGE OUR STAND. THE NATIONAL OFFICE AT PRESENT SUPPORTS OFF-BUDGET, BUT WE NEED PROOF THAT IT IS IN OUR BEST INTERESTS. THE PRESIDENT ASKED HIM IF HE WOULD CONTINUE HIS RESEARCH AND GIVE A FULL REPORT ON THIS AT THE CONVENTION.

JOHN CLARK, ALZHEIMER'S CHAIRMAN, THANKED EVERYONE FOR SENDING IN DONATIONS FOR 1997-1998. HE SAID WE ARE ON TARGET FOR REACHING OUR GOAL OF \$12,000.00 THIS FISCAL YEAR. ON DECEMBER 31, 1997, MORE THAN \$6500 HAD BEEN RECEIVED. HE ASKED THAT DONATIONS BE MADE BY APRIL 27, 1998, SO THAT HE CAN GIVE A COMPLETE REPORT AT THE CONVENTION. HE PASSED ON SOME GOOD IDEAS FOR RAISING FUNDS: SELLING CRAFTS, LOCAL COMMUNITY SALES, IN MEMORIAM FUNDS IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, RAFFLE TICKETS FOR \$100 BILL, AUCTIONING VIDALIA ONIONS (ONE AT A TIME), AND SELLING TICKETS AT THE MISSISSIPPI STATE FAIR. HE ALSO REPORTED THERE IS \$4646 IN THE BANK AS OF FEBRUARY 7, 1998, ABOUT \$2200 IN A CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT FOR THE COLUMBUS CHAPTER, MAKING A TOTAL OF \$6846.

EUELL L. DICKARD, CHAIRMAN, STATE LEGISLATION, IS KEEPING UP WITH ALL BILLS AND REPORTED THAT AS OF THIS WEEK, 1174 SENATE BILLS AND 1712 HOUSE BILLS HAVE BEEN FILED. MANY OF THESE HAVE LITTLE CHANCE OF ULTIMATE PASSAGE. HE IS, OF COURSE, INTERESTED IN PROVIDING INFORMATION TO NARFE MEMBERS ABOUT ANY LEGISLATION CONCERNING SENIORS. MR. DICKARD SAID THERE IS A LOT OF SUPPORT FOR USING THE TOBACCO SETTLEMENT MONEY FOR HEALTH-RELATED MATTERS. HE ALSO DISCUSSED HOUSE BILL 2135 WHICH PROPOSES PROVIDING IN-HOME HELP FOR DISABLED PERSONS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO NURSING HOME CARE. HE LED THE DISCUSSION ON HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FOR SENIORS. MEMBERS DISCUSSED THAT THE EXEMPTION SHOULD BE MORE REALISTIC AS FAR AS TRUE VALUE OF THE HOME. MR. DICKARD RECOMMENDED THAT NARFE MEMBERS KEEP ON TOP OF LEGISLATIVE ISSUES AFFECTING SENIORS.

AFTER THE LUNCH BREAK, THE MEETING RECONVENED.

AUBREY MILSTEAD, DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 1, REPORTED THAT HE HAD INSTALLED OFFICERS IN THE JACINTO CHAPTER IN CORINTH, THE LAFAYETTE CHAPTER IN OKFORD, AND THE N.E. MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER IN TUPELO. THE JANUARY 5, 1998, TRAINING SEMINAR WAS HELD IN OKFORD WITH 17 PERSONS ATTENDING. HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO REMAIN THE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE FOR DISTRICT 1 FOR ONE MORE YEAR.

DISTRICT 2 REPRESENTATIVE JOE PERRY SENT THE FOLLOWING REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT: THE JANUARY TRAINING SESSION WAS INTERESTING AND BENEFICIAL TO THE NEW OFFICERS. ON MEMBERSHIP, HE REPORTED THERE HAS BEEN A NET LOSS OF 8 MEMBERS. ON ALZHEIMER'S, HE REPORTED \$640 TO DATE AND SAID THIS PROGRAM WILL RECEIVE CONCENTRATED EFFORT DURING THE NEXT TWO MONTHS. HE INDICATED THAT THE THREE ACTIVE CHAPTERS HAVE A STRONG AND INFORMED LEGISLATIVE CHAIR. HE EXPECTS THE VICKSBURG CHAPTER WILL HAVE DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION. THE GRENADA AND GREENVILLE CHAPTERS HAVE ALREADY VOTED TO ALLOW THE STATE DELEGATION VOTE THEIR CHAPTERS BY PROXY.

DISTRICT 3 REPRESENTATIVE KEN COOK REPORTED THAT THE OFFICERS FOR 1998 WERE ELECTED. EIGHT OUT OF THE NINE CHAPTERS WERE REPRESENTED AT THE TRAINING SESSION IN JANUARY.

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DISTRICT 4 REPRESENTATIVE PAULINE CHANCELLOR IS CONTINUING TO VISIT THE CHAPTERS IN HER DISTRICT TO GIVE ENCOURAGEMENT AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO NARFE MEMBERS. SHE IS ENCOURAGING CHAPTERS TO SEEK HONORARY STATUS FOR MEMBERS WHO BECOME UNABLE TO ATTEND MEETINGS.

MARY SINDERS, DISTRICT 5 REPRESENTATIVE, REPORTED THAT THE TRAINING SESSION HELD JANUARY 9TH IN GULFPORT WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL WITH 31 ATTENDING. SHE SAID MARGARET BAPTISTE GAVE A VERY INFORMATIVE TALK ON NARFE-RELATED TOPICS AND GAVE THE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE. MRS. SINDERS IS CONCERNED ABOUT A POINT BROUGHT UP BY FIRST VICE PRESIDENT JACK THOMAS. HE SAID WE LOST VOTES AT THE HOUSTON CONVENTION BECAUSE SOME CHAPTERS SENT NO DELEGATES AND DID NOT GIVE THEIR PROXIES TO ANOTHER CHAPTER TO VOTE. SHE ENCOURAGED EACH CHAPTER TO HAVE COVERAGE AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION. MRS. SINDERS IS MAKING CHAPTER VISITS AND REPORTS SOUND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS, BUT INDICATES THERE IS DIFFICULTY IN GETTING MEMBERS TO ACCEPT OFFICER POSITIONS. SHE FURTHER REPORTED THERE IS SOME DIFFICULTY IN GETTING NATIONAL OFFICE TO TRANSFER MEMBERS LIVING IN THE PASCAGOULA AREA TO THE NEWLY ACTIVATED CHAPTER. MRS. SINDERS DISCUSSED MANAGED MEDICAL CARE AND URGED ALL NARFE MEMBERS TO LOOK VERY CAREFULLY AT LEGISLATION ON THIS SUBJECT.

THE NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS WAS A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE UPCOMING STATE CONVENTION. MUCH OF THE INFORMATION IS A WRITTEN REPORT FROM TOM LOFTIN. THE LOUISVILLE HIGH SCHOOL ROTC WILL PRESENT THE COLORS. THE ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE TIM JOHNSON, MADISON, MS., WHO IS AN ELVIS PRESLEY IMPERSONATOR. THE STARKVILLE CHAPTER WILL HANDLE HOSPITALITY. ANDY WOOD, MAYOR, LOUISVILLE, WILL WELCOME THE GROUP. A TOUR TO THE FIRE MUSEUM FOR THE FREE TIME ON MONDAY AFTERNOON HAS BEEN ARRANGED. SILVER STAR CASINO TRIP MAY BE MADE ON YOUR OWN. ROY STEWART DISCUSSED HOW THE CHAPTERS COULD ENHANCE THEIR BUDGET BY SELLING ADS. FRANK ATWATER, TREASURER, NATIONAL OFFICE, AND MARGARET BAPTISTE, REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT, REGION III, WILL SPEAK TO US. PAST PRESIDENTS WILL BE INVITED AS WELL. NAMES FOR THE MEMORIAL SERVICE NEED TO BE SUBMITTED NOT LATER THAN 16 APRIL. THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN FULL IN A FORTHCOMING LETTER CONCERNING ALL ASPECTS OF THE CONVENTION.

NEW BUSINESS: JIM YONGE MADE THE MOTION THAT WE ESTABLISH A NEW BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE CONVENTION. SECONDED BY JACK THOMAS. MOTION PASSED. DAVID MYERS MADE A MOTION THAT THE FEDERATION SEND THE INCOMING PRESIDENT (JACK THOMAS) TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION AND COVER COSTS UP TO \$600. SECONDED BY ROY STEWART. MOTION PASSED. JACK THOMAS URGED ALL CHAPTERS TO START MAKING PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL CONVENTION AND TAKE PROXIES. EACH DELEGATE CAN TAKE HIS OWN AND THREE OTHER PROXIES. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO VOTE.

COPIES OF ALL REPORTS IN THEIR ENTIRETY ARE ON FILE.

THE BUSINESS MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:35 P.M.

CHAPLAIN DICK SHAVE GAVE THE BENEDICTION.

Lois Thomas
LOIS THOMAS
SECRETARY