



REGION X CONFERENCE

On behalf of NARFE Headquarters, I want to take this opportunity to “Welcome” all of you to the Region X Conference.

Regional conferences provide a great opportunity for the leaders within a region to come together to discuss various issues affecting NARFE and more specifically, chapters and federations.

The majority of the attendees at these conference’s are the local chapter leaders, as well as the federation leaders. Y’all are the “movers & shakers” of our great organization and you all should be commended for your willingness to take time from your busy schedules to attend this conference.

Some of the objectives of regional conferences are to:

- 1) Train leaders to meet current and future demands
- 2) Attract, train and retain leaders
- 3) Strengthen chapter programming
- 4) Aid leadership to excite members about chapter and federation activities
- 5) Examine communication options and
- 6) Assist chapters and federation with strategic planning as well as chapter/federation management

The benefits of leadership development to NARFE members is a better trained, focused, and confident set of leaders

Leaders should also be better prepared for meetings, more effective during these meetings and able to work closer with other leadership to map a course for the future that excites and involves the members.

What is the most endangered species in NARFE?

Answer - - - Dedicated Leaders

The two most power filled words are "I Can"

Leaders understand the importance of

- 1) Vision
- 2) Planning
- 3) Listening
- 4) Facilitating
- 5) Motivating

Leaders should know the following:

- 1) There must be followers
- 2) Results are what counts
- 3) Visibility invites inspection
- 4) It's not rank, privileges, titles or money- - - - It Is Responsibility

Abraham Lincoln said: "Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power"

High quality leadership demands vision and partnership

True vision means an honest examination of the chapter's or federation's direction & future.

Partnership encompasses so many dimensions of the job including

- 1) Gaining commitment
- 2) Creating alignment and
- 3) Facing adaptive challenges

Effective leaders

- 1) Provide direction and meaning. They remind people of what is important, and why their involvement makes a difference
- 2) Generate and sustain trust
- 3) Exhibit strong action, risk taking and curiosity. And they are willing to try, and risk failure, to achieve results.

Remember - - - - There is "No Magic Bullet"

NARFE's success depends on each and every one of you

Your leadership will make a huge difference in NARFE's future

NARFE has gone from almost 1/2 million members to about 1/4 million members

We have closed over 1,000 chapters (Today we have about 1,359 chapters) - - - -

Most of the chapters have closed because they cannot fill the officer positions

As we move forward it reminds me of a saying by Ernest Hemingway - - - - "Never confuse movement with action"

Good Luck On Your Conference