



REGION X REPORT
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NATIONAL ELECTION (2nd Ballot) – As anticipated, in June, no one candidate for National President received a 51% to be elected. So another ballot was necessary to conduct the election for the next National President. The ballot was in the September issue of the "*narfe*" magazine and the voting closed at 11:59 PM on September 30. The total number of ballots that were distributed was 199,525 and the total number of ballots received was 14,405. The tabulating firm (Election Services Company) determined that 4 ballots were invalid for unknown reasons. After the first tally, of the remaining 14,401 ballots, none of the remaining three candidates received 51%, thereby making it necessary to use the preferential voting procedure that was over-whelming approved in June.

CANDIDATE	VOTES RECEIVED	PERCENTAGE
Steve Lenkart	5,387	37%
Ken Thomas	6,905	48%
Ted Van Hintum	2,109	15%

Prior to the tally using the preferential voting method, an additional 443 ballots were determined to be invalid for unknown reasons. The remaining ballots were tallied using a Borda count, with three points for first place, two points for second place, and 1 point for third place. The results are as follows:

CANDIDATE	1st PLACE	2nd PLACE	3rd PLACE	POINTS
Steve Lenkart	5,217	5,209	3,528	29,597
Ken Thomas	6,686	4,917	2,351	32,243
Ted Van Hintum	2,051	3,828	8,075	21,884

The unfortunate results of the election/balloting was not in the final candidate but in the overall participation by the NARFE membership. As stated above, the total number of ballots that were distributed was 199,525 and the total number of ballots received was 14,405 which indicated that only 7.22% of the NARFE members voted in the second round. By comparison, voting percentage in the Federations in Region X are as follows:

	1st BALLOT (June)	2nd BALLOT (September)
Kentucky	6.90%	7.24%
North Carolina	8.18%	7.72%
Tennessee	7.49%	7.62%
Virginia	7.64%	7.98%
West Virginia	7.63%	9.82%

While the overall percentages are disappointing, the Region X Federations did have some of the highest percentages. A comparison to the three Federations with more than 10,000 members, is shown below:

	1st BALLOT (June)	2nd BALLOT (September)
California	6.45%	6.67%
Maryland	5.81%	6.19%
Pennsylvania	5.52%	7.23%

MEMBERSHIP – A new Membership and Marketing Manual for Federations and Chapters is available on-line at www.narfe.org and can be downloaded. The form number is FH-19.

NATIONAL-only vs. CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP – The ratio, by percentage, between National-only members and Chapter members is holding steady.

FEDERATION	8/1/2018	9/1/2018	9/20/2018	10/1/2018	11/1/2018
Kentucky	40%	40%	40%	40%	41%
North Carolina	54%	54%	54%	55%	55%
Tennessee	49%	49%	49%	50%	50%
Virginia	49%	49%	50%	50%	50%
West Virginia	44%	45%	45%	45%	46%
Region X	49%	49%	49%	50%	50%

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BONUS – The 2018 NARFE Membership drive continues until December 31, 2018, and recruiters will receive \$10 from NARFE National for each new member recruited. Recruiters are reminded to include your NARFE membership number when you give out your applications, so we know whom to credit.

FEDcon18 – The NARFE premier conference – August 26–28, 2018, in Jacksonville, Florida and attendees experienced 2½ days with offerings of over 30 break-out sessions, including Leadership, Advocacy, Federal Benefits, and Life Management, plus top-notch keynote speakers. Presentations by many of the speakers and break-out sessions are on the NARFE website.

The final number of registrants for FEDcon18, the final number of individuals registered was 761, but 720 on-site (41 no-shows) including 58 current Federal employees and 38 non-members who

attended. The number of registrants was less than anticipated and approximately 60% of the attendance at the 2016 NARFE National Convention in Reno. Could the cost be one reason for not attending (\$175 for registration and \$65 for the Gala), or could it be that some folks are thinking "***Why bother if all of the business has been completed already?***"

Following the event, NARFE sent out a survey to the attendees to gather feedback. A total of 219 responded to the survey representing just over 30% of attendees. Over 92% of attendees who responded to the evaluation were satisfied or very satisfied with the overall event. Five of the keynote speakers and the moderator scored above a 4 out of 5 rating. Our guest speaker, OPM Director Dr. Jeff Pon received a 3.2. Over 91% of attendees who responded were satisfied or very satisfied with the breakout sessions.

REGION X CONFERENCE – Preparation is underway for the 2019 Region X Conference which will be hosted by the North Carolina Federation. On my return from FEDcon18, I conducted a site survey at the Hilton Garden Inn in Jacksonville, North Carolina. During the week of November 5, I conducted a site survey at three properties in Winston-Salem. These properties were a Hilton Garden Inn and a DoubleTree By Hilton, and the Hawthorne Inn and Conference Center.

LEGISLATIVE TRAINING – The biennial National Legislative Training Conference, to be known as LEGcon19, will be held from March 10 through 13, 2019. The location will be the Hilton Mark Center in Alexandria. This is the same location as the 2017 event. Registration is expected to open in November, 2018.

WEEKLY UPDATES – The weekly updates that I have provided in the past were a compilation of facts and figures provided to the National Executive Board (NEB) by, soon-to-be, Immediate Past National President Richard Thissen. This information has not been provided to the NEB on a regular basis since mid-July due to the preparation for FEDcon18 and his move back home near Spokane, Washington. At this time, I do not know what weekly facts and figures incoming National President Ken Thomas is going to be providing the members of the NEB. I am working on developing my own format for reports that I will be able to furnish to the Federation Presidents to include Gain/Loss Reports, National-only vs. Chapter Membership percentages and updates on closed Chapters.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD – The next NEB meeting will be November 28-30 and the location will be NARFE Headquarters.