



## 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 ½ million members to about ¼ 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**