



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Virginia Federation of Chapters

March 14, 2009

MEMO TO: Board of Directors, Chapter Presidents and Secretaries

IMPORTANT NOTE TO CHAPTER PRESIDENTS AND CHAPTER SECRETARIES: *If you are not the current Chapter President or Secretary, please give this memorandum to your successor immediately. Chapter officers who receive this memorandum should take responsibility for the duplication and dissemination with all enclosures, including the resolutions, to all chapter delegates and alternates so they may review materials before attending the convention.*

From: William F. Martin, President Virginia Federation of Chapters
narfe2065@hughes.net

Subject: 2009 CALL TO CONVENTION

Pursuant to Article V, Section 2, of the Virginia Federation of Chapters (VFC) Bylaws, this is the official announcement of the 55th Annual National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, VFC Convention. It will be held May 1-3, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Reston Hotel. For additional information concerning hotel accommodations and other Convention arrangements, please refer to the 2009 VFC Convention Bulletins 1 and 2, previously provided and also available on the VFC web site, www.vanarfe.org. The hosts are the chapters in Areas IX and X. The VFC Convention Coordinator is VFC 1st Vice President, Carolyn Wilson, phone 804-722-4346, e-mail: NARFE1472@comcast.net.

(1) Delegates

The VFC Bylaws provide that each chapter is entitled to one Convention delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof. This will be based on the "2009 Voting Strength and Federation Dues" report sent to chapters by the VFC Secretary. Further, alternates may be selected in a number equal to the total delegate representation for each chapter.

Delegates may register from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday May 1st and 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday May 2nd, at which time the Registration will close.

Delegates registering after the initial registration cutoff date of March 2 will pay a late fee and receive a committee assignment but those names may not be included in the Convention Program Book.

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Chapter Presidents are requested to appoint a “lead” delegate to cast the voting strength of their Chapter. Chapter Presidents unable to send at least one delegate to the Convention are encouraged to give their voting proxy, by using form VFC/PVD Rev 2-08 (Enclosure 2), to an attending delegate or delegate-at-large. No delegate may carry more than two proxies. Contact VFC Secretary, vivmiller801@netzero.net, for information on the procedures for voting by proxy.

Chapter-designated lead delegates, delegates-at-large and proxy holders should report to the Convention Credentials Committee table to obtain: (1) voting instructions and (2) a voting credential. This form must be presented to gain access to the voting area and to complete the balloting process. It will also be used on the floor of the convention to cast the voting strength of your Chapter, if necessary.

(2) Elections

The Nominating Committee, composed of representatives from all areas and chaired by Shirley Ann Atkins, Chapter 682, Area I, has presented the following slate of officers (*indicates incumbent):

President	William F. Martin*	Chapter 2065	Area VIII
1 st Vice President	Carolyn Wilson*	Chapter 1472	Area III
2 nd Vice President	Richard Giangerelli*	Chapter 1241	Area X
Secretary	Robert H. Miller*	Chapter 232	Area IX
Treasurer	Darlene Myer Rhodes*	Chapter 893	Area IX

Following the Nominating Committee report to the Convention, there will be a call for additional nominations from the floor. If there are additional nominations, single nominating and seconding speeches limited to three minutes and two minutes, respectively, will be allowed for each candidate nominated from the floor. Each opposing candidate will be given an opportunity to speak to the convention for no longer than five minutes.

Article IV, Section 3 of the Bylaws states: “Elections at the Annual Convention shall be by ballot. If there is only one candidate for an office, the ballot may be dispensed with and voting may be by voice.” Where there is more than one member running for a position, there will be a handwritten ballot based on Chapter strength, with a Ballot and Tellers Committee member present to count the ballots.

For those positions having more than one candidate, the candidates may wish to consider a short visit to each caucus, no more than five minutes, to answer questions.

(3) Resolutions

A listing of Convention Committee Chairs is enclosed. Convention Committees may amend, reject, or combine similar resolutions and will report to the Convention delegation with their recommendations.

One resolution was received by the prescribed deadline for consideration and has been assigned to the Resolutions Committee (attachment 3).

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Resolutions crafted after the prescribed deadline for receipt by the VFC Secretary and before May 1, 2009 (the date of the official opening ceremony) must be submitted in writing to the VFC Secretary, Robert H. Miller, before the official opening ceremony begins. If applicable, the first order of convention business will be a call for vote by the delegation as to whether or not to accept the resolution for consideration. A majority vote is required for acceptance. In order to conduct the business of the Convention within time constraints and in an efficient manner, should the resolution be accepted by the delegation for consideration, and without objection, the VFC President will assign the resolution to a committee for consideration along with other resolutions already assigned. To clarify this provision, the Convention Standing Rules have been expanded in the Convention Program Book, as follows:

Rule 3: Resolutions:

b. All resolutions must have been submitted in writing to the VFC Secretary. Other requests for action, not already received in a timely manner as required by the bylaws, may be made at the opening session of the convention as follows: by a qualified constituent representative, in writing, to the Secretary. The convention, by majority vote, can then consider that question immediately or can order a committee to report on the resolution at a specified time. Such requests are to be limited to emergency items or action “for the good” of the organization and its objectives.

(4) Amendments to VFC Constitution & Bylaws (C&B)

The C&B Committee Chair, Betty L. Warren, reported that as of the prescribed deadline, there were no C&B proposed amendments submitted to the Committee nor proposals crafted separately by the Committee for consideration by the 2009 VFC Convention delegates.

(5) Convention Theme – *Bringing Employees and Retirees Together*

(6) Convention Program (tentative agenda, only minor changes anticipated)

Friday, May 1st:

9:00 – 5:00	Registration
1:00 – 4:45	Opening Ceremonies
	Guest Speaker – Rep. Gerry E. Connolly, 11th Congressional District
	Memorial Service
	Guest Speaker – KathleenMcGettigan, Deputy Associate Director,
	Center for Retirement & Insurance Services, OPM
	Remarks by Region X Vice President, Paul Carew
	Election by Voice Vote for Uncontested Offices
5:00 – 6:00	Dinner on Your Own

6:00 – 7:00 Forum – Candidates for Governor of Virginia
7:00 – 9:00 Reception Hosted by Convention Committee

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Saturday, May 2nd:

9:00 – 9:45 Area Caucus Meetings
10:00 – 11:30 Program Committee Meetings for Delegates
11:30 – 1:00 Lunch on Your Own
1:00 – 5:00 Guest Speaker – To Be Determined
Report of VFC Treasurer
Report of VFC President
Convention Committee Reports
6:00 – 9:00 Banquet (Social, Dinner Served)
Installation of Officers
Entertainment – Vocal Express

Sunday, May 3rd:

9:00 – 12:00 Guest Speaker – To Be Determined
Finish Committee Reports
Finish Business on Resolutions
Report of the 2010 Convention
Closing Remarks
The 55th VFC Convention adjourns

I look forward to meeting you at the Convention in Reston. As our theme states, “*Bringing Employees and Retirees Together*” is what we need to do to increase our membership, build mutual trust, coordinate efforts to push for legislation to protect our earned benefits, and to enjoy our times with one another. We have six major programs of emphasis: National Legislation, State Legislation, Membership, Service, Public Relations and Alzheimer’s. This provides a good mix with many opportunities in which our members can get involved. There is a place for everyone to apply their talents.

Enclosures:

- 1. Listing of VFC Convention Committee Chairs**
- 2. Proxy Voting Designate Form**
- 3. Resolutions for Consideration by 2009 VFC Convention (1)**