

# IN NSO CONTACT



Newsletter of the National Staff Organization

April 2005

## **San Diego site sights...**

## **Plans Underway for 2005 NSO Rep Assembly**

Plans for the 2005 NSO Representative Assembly are underway, according to NSO Secretary Mary Henson (MI). Details about the Assembly are scheduled to be sent to affiliate presidents April 4. The Assembly will be June 10-11, 2005 in the Hyatt Islandia Hotel, San Diego, CA. As in the past, the meeting will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. with registration to begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, June 10. To help eliminate crowds and confusion, there will be early registration Thursday, June 9 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Representative Assembly will adjourn at approximately noon on Saturday, June 11.

**Hotel Reservations:** The Hyatt Islandia room rates are \$149 single/double occupancy and are available June 6 through June 12, 2005 for NSO. Delegates are advised to have a credit card to guarantee rooms. Rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-233-1234 and ask for the National Staff Organization Room Block. If available, we will post a direct link to the Hyatt Islandia for reservations on the NSO Web page. The cut off date for making room reservations is May 9, 2005.

Reservations made outside of the NSO block dates or after May 9 will be based on space available at the hotel's prevailing rate. For problems, contact Lena

### *Election Notice*

During the NSO Representative Assembly, an election will take place for the following NSO Executive Committee positions serving a two-year term ( June 11, 2005 - June 9, 2007).

Region 1 Director  
Region 3 Director  
Region 5 Director  
Region 7 Director  
At-Large Director A  
At-Large Director B



*NSO's Executive Committee met March 31-April 1 to handle the on-going business of the union, including preparations for the 2005 NSO Representative Assembly. NSO President Chuck Agerstrand (MI) [right] sits with Emmitt Jimmar (AL) and NSO Secretary Mary Henson (MI).*

Goldberg, Convention Services Manager at 619-221-4824 or e-mail [lgoldber@sanispo.hyatt.com](mailto:lgoldber@sanispo.hyatt.com), Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (PST). NSO asks that affiliates not make block reservations, i.e., reserving multiple rooms under one name. Names of attendees will be needed when making reservations. To cancel a room reservation, affiliates are asked to not contact the hotel. Instead, contact Henson so the room will not be removed from the NSO block. By doing so, another NSO affiliate or delegate may be able to use the room.

**Hyatt Islandia**  
On San Diego's Mission Bay  
1441 Quivira Road  
San Diego, CA 92109-7898  
1-619-224-1234

Affiliate presidents will receive the 2005-06 Proposed NSO Budget and Proposed Constitutional amendments by mail. Affiliates are asked to distribute the information to delegates for their review. Action will be taken at the Representative Assembly on Saturday, June 11.

**Solidarity Reception:** There will be a reception on Friday for solidarity and networking purposes. Afterwards, delegates will be free to enjoy San Diego on their own. Further details will be available at the NSO registration desk.

**Delegate Entitlement Listing:** Affiliate presidents will receive the delegate entitlement based on the membership numbers as provided to the NSO Financial Adviser as of March 31. Those affiliates made up of both professional and associate staff would be entitled to delegates based on the number of members as if the associate and professional members were in separate unions.

**Seating of Delegates:** NSO requires that dues must be paid in full before an affiliate is seated with voting privileges. Affiliate presidents will receive a "Membership/Dues Transmittal Statement" showing the dues status of each affiliate as of March 31, 2005. Questions should be directed to NSO Financial Adviser Vera Stafford at 269-521-4341. NSO also requires that Charlie Love Crisis Fund payments be made in full before being seated with voting privileges. Questions about those payments should also go to Stafford. In compliance with Landrum-Griffin and NSO policies, a section of the RA floor is reserved for voting delegates only. Observers, alternates, and delegates without voting credentials will be provided seating to the rear of the RA floor. Delegates are

reminded the entire floor of the RA is designated as a "no-smoking" area.

**Election of 2005 RA Delegates:** Affiliate presidents will be directed to have their "2005 Delegate Name Form" to Henson no later than Friday, May 13, 2005. Failure to meet the deadline date for submission of entitled delegates will result in the non-credentialing of said delegates. Henson urges early notification of delegates, as well as alternates, to speed up registration. In accordance with the LMRDA, all information on the delegates and alternates need to be home information - not business.

As a reminder, the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 (LMRDA or Landrum-Griffin) requires that affiliate delegates be elected by secret ballot because officers of NSO are elected at the Representative Assembly. Additionally, the NSO Constitution requires in Article IX, Section 4, that "Delegates and alternates to the Representative Assembly shall be elected by a majority secret ballot vote of their state association membership casting ballots." Affiliate presidents or other appropriate representatives must sign the "Delegate Name Form" certifying that affiliates and alternates are elected in accordance with the NSO Constitution and the Landrum-Griffin Act. No delegate or alternate will be seated unless elected in accordance with these provisions. Under no circumstances can delegates be appointed.

**NSO Campaign and Election Rules:** NSO has established Campaign and Elections rules that govern how elections for NSO officers are conducted. Any member running for office shall abide by these campaign and election rules. Copies of those rules will be sent to affiliate presidents. They are encouraged to share those rules with any member who will be running for an NSO office.

#### **Election Notice**

An election will be held at the 2005 Representative Assembly for the following NSO Executive Committee positions serving a two-year term (June 11, 2005 - June 9, 2007): **Region 1 Director; Region 3 Director; Region 5 Director; Region 7 Director; At-Large Director A; At-Large Director B.**

Any active NSO member is eligible to run for the above-mentioned positions. In accordance with the NSO Constitution and Bylaws, a candidate must submit a petition signed by at least three NSO members and submit such petition to the NSO Secretary no later than June 10, 2005, 10 a.m. (Article VIII, Section 1). See your Affiliate President,

or contact the NSO Secretary, to receive a copy of the Candidate's Petition.

Furthermore, any member may be nominated from the floor at the annual Representative Assembly, accompanied by a petition with the signature of three (3) members, for any officer to be so elected, provided the nominees are members in good standing of this Organization. (Article VIII, Section 2)

A copy of NSO Campaign Rules and Elections Regulations can be secured from NSO Secretary Mary Henson. Her e-mail address is [EsthersBaby@msn.com](mailto:EsthersBaby@msn.com).

**2005 RA Delegate Handbook:** The "2005 Delegate Handbook" is being finalized for printing and will be sent in bulk to affiliate presidents, along with San Diego information by mid-May.

## **2nd L-M Summit Scheduled**

The second NEA-NCSEA-NSO Labor Management Summit will take place Tuesday, May 10, 2005 in Chicago, IL. The meeting will be in the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel, 9300 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Rosemont, IL (near O'Hare Airport). Reservations can be made by calling 1-847-696-1234. NEA has reserved a block of rooms at a group rate of \$145. The meeting will be from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

A registration form can be downloaded from the NSO Web page – [www.nationalstaff.org](http://www.nationalstaff.org). Once completed, the form can be faxed to Connie Gant at 202-822-7974.

For a description of the criteria for attendance and the L-M Summit's program elements go to the NSO Web page and read the story about the Summit II. A link to the 2004 L-M Summit is also on the NSO Web page.

### **NEA/NCSEA/NSO Joint Labor-Management Summit II**

Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois  
1-847-696-1234  
May 10, 2005

*"NEA/NCSEA/NSO - Working Together to Provide Quality Health Care and a Safe and Secure Retirement System While Maintaining State Affiliate Fiscal Solvency."*

7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:00— 8:15 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

8:15— 10:15 a.m. Report of the NEA/NCSEA/NSO Joint Labor-Management Committees on Health Care and Pensions

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 – 12:00 a.m. State Sharing of Recent State Affiliate Labor-Management Agreements Regarding Health Care and Pensions

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch - State Affiliate Labor Management Dialogue

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. State Affiliate Labor-Management Dialogue

2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Next Steps

### **Session Descriptions...**

*"Report of the NEA/NCSEA/NSO Joint Labor-Management Committees on Health Care and Pensions."*

In this session the NEA/NCSEA/NSO Joint Labor-Management Committees on Health Care and Pensions will discuss their findings and recommendations. These committees were established as a result of the recommendations of the participants of the NEA/NCSEA/NSO Joint Labor-Management Summit I held last May 2004.

*"State Sharing of Recent State Affiliate Labor-Management Agreements Regarding Health Care and Pensions."*

In this session state affiliate labor-management representatives will discuss their recent collective bargaining agreements which provided stop gap measures to deal with the rising costs of quality health care benefits and pensions while maintaining state affiliate fiscal solvency.

*"State Affiliate Labor-Management Dialogue."*

In this session, the state affiliate labor-managements representatives will develop their plans to educate their staff, management and governance about the goal of NEA/NCSEA/NSO working together to provide quality health care and a safe and secure retirement system while maintaining state affiliate fiscal solvency.

## 2004-2005 NSO Calendar

Below is the current calendar for NSO events during the 2004-2005 year. Be sure to check the NSO Web page for calendar updates.

*National Bargaining Conference*  
Apr. 15-16, 2005  
Grand Hyatt, Denver, CO

*NSO-NEA Labor-Management Summit*  
May 10, 2005  
Chicago, IL

*NSO Representative Assembly*  
June 10-11, 2005  
San Diego, CA

March that during a general membership meeting in February, PSU voted to donate \$20,000 to the CORE Legal Defense Fund. Under NSO legal assistance policy, the national union is providing financial assistance as the two unions respond to OEA's suits.

## Headline Mania II

Back by popular demand! If you have a good one, send it to Eitor Bob Mullins at:

[RobertM109@aol.com](mailto:RobertM109@aol.com). (No fair using headlines from CONTACT!)

From the Denver, CO *Capitol Reporter*:  
**'Secret' Policy on Harassment Gets to 1st Base**

From the *New York Times*:  
**Ambassador's Death is First Since '79**

From the *Chicago Tribune*:  
**Fast-Food Holdup Fails to Cut Mustard**

## OEA Sues Their Staff Unions



The Ohio Professional Staff Union and Associate Staff Union have been sued by the Ohio Education Association over their representation of retirees in grievances. The case was filed in the Southern District

of Ohio and has been assigned to a magistrate, according to NSO Region 5 Director Ed Helvey (OH). "Scores of grievances are advancing to arbitration," says Helvey. "Included are denial of health care benefits to retirees, pay placement, and various issues. Due to OEA's lawsuit over being able to grieve retiree issues, the refusal to seek alternative dispute resolution procedures for the Coalition of Retired Employees (CORE) dispute and the root issues of the CORE dispute, PSU and OASU have voted to not participate in the NEA/NSO National Labor Management Summit in Chicago." Helvey also reported to the NSO Executive Committee in

## Check Out Member Specials



Members with their new NSO "Access" membership cards can save up to 40 percent of Philips products, and 12 percent on Dell Computer products. Members can "customize" and "localize" their selections. Check it on the NSO Web site.

**Be Sure to Check  
the NSO Web page at  
[www.nationalstaff.org](http://www.nationalstaff.org)**

**NSO Contact** is edited by Bob Mullins.



Comments and suggestions are welcome, and should be sent to Mullins at: 525 Meadoway Park, Worthington, OH 43085

Phone: 614-436-3398

NSO Contact FAX: 614-436-3570.

Internet: [RobertM109@aol.com](mailto:RobertM109@aol.com).

**NSO Web Page**

<http://www.nationalstaff.org>

**President:** Chuck Agerstrand, (517) 332-6551  
**Vice President for Defense:** Marius Ambrose, (410) 997-3440  
**Vice President for Program:** Lynn Adler, (312) 494-0607  
**Secretary:** Mary Henson, (800) 292-1934 x 6215 (O), (517) 622-1985 (H), FAX (secure) (517) 622-1892

**Treasurer:** Evelyn Smith, (217) 968-5348  
**Region 1:** Cheryl Singleton, (617) 878-8657  
**Region 2:** Butch Santicola (724) 457-6337  
**Region 3:** Emmitt Jimmar, (256) 446-8117  
**Region 4:** John Stephens, (209) 478-6091

**Region 5:** Ed Helvey, (614) 895-1041  
**Region 6:** Ron Goldenstein, (402) 475-7611  
**Region 7:** Rosemary Wolf, (253) 765-7082  
**At-Large A:** Robert Blackwell, (910) 347-7623  
**At-Large B:** Pat Chavez, (505) 982-1916

**Financial Advisor:** Vera Stafford, 269-52104341, FAX (Secure) 269521-7529