

INTSO CONTACT



Newsletter of the National Staff Organization

December 2002

'Quite Successful' says President

Mississippi Settles Three Year Contract



Members of the Mississippi Educators Staff Organization (MESO) have ratified a new three-year contract. Bargaining was "difficult," according to MESO President Joseph Chennault.

"Management did not release its

proposal prior to bargaining as was mutually agreed," says Chennault. "Nevertheless, using the skills and techniques from the bargaining training at the WAR College, we were quite successful." Terms of the agreement are:

- Three year contract which runs Sept. 1, 2002 to Aug. 31, 2005;
- Salary increases of three percent, five percent, and six percent;
- Full family coverage for dental and vision insurance;
- An additional one percent company match to the 401(k), for a total of two percent match of employee's salary;
- An additional day of annual leave to the Annual Leave Schedule;

• Health/hospitalization insurance fully paid by the Association for each employee.

The Mississippi Educators Staff Organization is a wall-to-wall unit representing three associate members and seven professional members.

Western/Central CBC Focus on Advocacy



Representatives from the Central and Western States Coordinated Bargaining Councils met Nov. 22-23 in Denver to review goals and standards, report the states of bargaining, and hear a report about NSO's impact study on subcontracting, among other topics. The Central CBC consists of affiliates from: Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, TABCO (Baltimore) and Texas. Western States CBC consists of affiliates from: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.



NSO Executive Committee members and Western CBC chairs John Stephens (CA) and Rosemary Wolf (OR) [second from left] address the Western CBC affiliates during a joint meeting with Central CBC Nov. 22-23 in Denver.

WEASO Expands Web Site



Many NSO affiliates who have launched and maintained Web sites report good response among members about the quick and efficient way to

communicate within the union. We share with you this article from "Just Rewards" a leadership publication of the Washington Education Association Staff Organization (WEASO). The newsletter goes to union members as well as Washington Education Association (WEA) managers, board members and local leaders. The newsletter article reads...

WEASO's Web page, www.weaso.org, is getting better all the time. Led by WEASO member Susan Marsden, an all-volunteer group has been adding valuable features, including a members-only, password-protected page.

The WEASO Web page also has been asking WEASO members to describe the most important union value. Here's how one WEASO's member recently answered the question:

Maryjo Baker, a WEA-Southeast UniServ rep, said the most important union value is "advancing collective interests through collective action. This allows the union to practice solidarity while holding itself accountable to organizational integrity. We behave in a trustworthy way and recognize the dignity of the individual and the collective."

WEASO President Jeff Wahlquist [now immediate past president] recently honored Marsden for her WEASO Web work with a special award at the annual WEASO general membership meeting.

The NSO Web site (www.nationalstaff.org) maintains links to NSO affiliates that have Web pages.

A Chance for Fun and Fellowship...



NSO President Chuck Agerstrand (MI) reminds all who will attend the 2003 NSO Winter Advocacy Retreat to make special effort to participate in the NSO Gulf Coast Buffet, Friday, Jan. 17. "This is a wonderful opportunity to relax, socialize, renew and make new friends, and show how much we care about our union brothers and sisters," says Agerstrand. Early bird cost is \$35, with NSO picking up the additional charge. After Jan. 3, the cost will be \$50 per person. Dancing follows the meal!

Be Sure To Check the NSO Web Page
www.nationalstaff.org



Holiday Greetings!

From all of your NSO officers and executive committee members, we wish you a happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year. We take time to remember those who worked to better our lives. And, we renew our commitment to the hard working members of the National Staff Organization.

Chuck Agerstrand, NSO President

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.

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) 407-0098

Secretary: Mary Henson, (800) 292-1934 x 6215 (O), (517) 622-1985 (H), FAX (secure) (517) 622-1892

Treasurer: Vera Stafford, (269) 628-6300

Region 1: Cheryl Singleton, (617) 878-8657

Region 2: Butch Santicola (724) 457-0670

Region 3: Emmitt Jimmar, (205) 446-8117

Region 4: John Stephens, (209) 478-6091

Region 5: Barry Tusin (630) 369-1555 x17

Region 6: Dennis Krueger, (515) 471-8000

Region 7: Rosemary Wolf, (253) 765-7082

At-Large (Temp): Diane Thompson, (402) 475-7611

At-Large: Robert Blackwell, (910) 347-7623