

NSO Contact

National Staff Organization

NSO RA 2009 Issue I

Welcome delegates to the National Staff Organization Representative Assembly

Welcome delegates to the National Staff Organization Representative Assembly here in Jacksonville, Florida. I'm looking forward to this opportunity to work with you as we conduct the business of NSO. I also look forward to the opportunity to talk with you who represent union brothers and sisters of our affiliates.

Our agenda is an exciting one. Following an NSO tradition, we'll be hearing from NEA President Dennis Van Roekel. We'll be learning of his vision for NEA and the role NSO members have in that vision.

There's always RA interest when the budget and elections are part of our discussions. The Executive Committee will be recommending a new budget with no dues increase for delegates to approve. And there are contested elections for Executive Committee director positions. We will be busy these next two days.

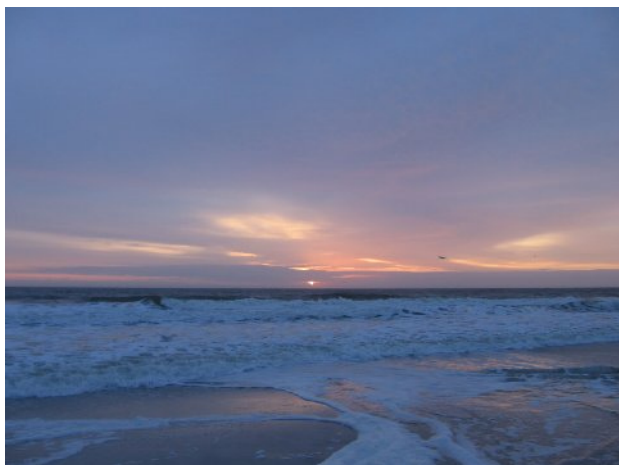
There are also pressing issues which don't appear on the agenda, but are having an impact on every NSO affiliate.

The economy is affecting every NSO member in some way or another. For those affiliates like NEASO who is bargaining, it means dealing with drastic rollbacks in salary and benefits. For Indiana State Teachers Association (ISTA), it means serious financial trouble with its insurance fund. And for many NSO affiliates, it means dealing with pension costs.

But there are also initiatives out there which are good for labor and for unions. NSO endorses the United Steel Workers "Buy America" economic renewal resolution. This initiative is important in stimulating job and economic recovery.

NSO also fully supports the Employee Free Choice Act, some of the most important labor legislation in decades. Hopefully, the RA will follow the lead of the North Carolina Staff Organization who has already endorsed the Act.

While these are challenging times to be a union member, it's also an exhilarating time to be a part of NSO. As long as we remain strong and united, these challenges are just another opportunity for us to practice our mission: "United to lead, to promote, to secure and to defend."



Chuck Agerstrand, NSO President

NSO Representative Assembly

Schedule of Events

Thursday, June 11

10 a.m.	Finance Committee Meeting	Regency Suite
1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	Early Registration	Ballroom Foyer 5-8
3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.	First Time Delegate Orientation	River Terrace 3
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Election & Tellers Comm. Mtg.	Boardroom 4

Friday, June 12

7 a.m. – 9 a.m.	Registrations	Ballroom Foyer 5
7:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Ballroom Foyer 6-8
9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Representative Assembly	Grand 4-5
Noon – 2 p.m.	Lunch	
5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.	Solidarity/Networking Reception	River Terrace 1

Saturday, June 13

8 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Ballroom Foyer 6-8
8 a.m. – 9 a.m.	Elections	Grand 6
9:00 a.m. – Noon	Representative Assembly	Grand 4-5
	Dennis Van Roekel, Keynote Speaker	

Jacksonville at a Glance

After the business of the RA and the networking at the reception, try some of these ideas for your down time entertainment:

Beaches

- Jacksonville Beach

Golf

- Champions Club at Julington Creek – public
- Windsor Parke Golf Club – semi-private
- Cimarrone Golf Club – semi-private
- Bent Creek Golf Course - public
- Hampton Golf Academy – public

Museums

- Maritime Museum – Naval artifacts, manuscripts and ship models
- Museum of Science and Industry – Holozone, virtual reality experience
- Mandarin Museum and Historical Society –Harriet Beecher Stowe' garden
- Ritz Theatre and LaVilla Museum – “Harlem of the South”
- Museum of Contemporary Art – Largest collection of modern art in the Southeast
- Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens – Largest fine art museum in Northeast Florida

Shopping

- Avenues Mall – Upscale and trendy
- Five Points – Vintage and antiques
- Jackson's Landing
- Regency Square Mall
- St. Johns Town Center
- Prime Outlets – St. Augustine

Theatre

- “Annie” – Alhambra Dinner Theatre – 1-800-688-7469

Tours (www.tourjax.com)

- Timucuan Preserve – Local national park site featuring Fort Caroline National Monument and Ribault Club, a restored 1920's golf resort.
 - Walk Through Old Florida – A two-mile natural trail
 - African American Heritage – African American historical sites
 - St. Augustine – Oldest continuously occupied city in North America
 - Amelia Island
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National Staff Organization

The world's largest union of union staff—that's what the National Staff Organization has become. Through the efforts of literally hundreds of staff leaders, NSO has grown from a mere 35 members in a handful of states in 1969, to 5,013 (as of August, 2008) from 89 affiliates in 50 states and the District of Columbia. A major portion of that growth came with the decision by the 1978 NSO Representative Assembly to organize associate staff members.

Today, NSO has over 2,300 full-time and over 106 part-time associate staff members.

NSO Executive Committee

President – Chuck Agerstrand

Vice President for Defense – Marius Ambrose

Vice President for Program – Lynn Adler

Treasurer – Ron Goldenstein

Secretary – Mary Henson

Region 1 – Cheryl Singleton

Region 2 – Butch Santicola

Region 3 – Emmitt Jimmar

Region 4 – John Stephens

Region 5 – Kathy Hill

Region 6 – Michael Coleman

Region 7 – Rosemary Wolf

At Large-A – Robert Blackwell

At Large-B – Ruth Ivory

Communications – Rosemary Carey

Web – Miriam Garcia

Check out the web site, www.nationalstaff.org
for the latest news and updates on bargaining.
