

THE CAPSULE

Volume 16, Issue 12

January, February, March 2015

MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT



Dear NARBW Members:

It is hard to believe that, by the time this issue of the "Capsule" is published, spring flowers will be in full bloom and we will be weeks away from the 71st National Convention in Savannah, Georgia.

The National Board held its Winter Board meeting in Savannah at the Springhill Suites Historic District Hotel, which is the site of our upcoming Convention. Savannah is a lovely, historic city and the hotel staff is looking forward to the arrival of NARBW.

Joyce Peak, our Convention Chair, and

her Atlanta Chapter committee have been working very hard to prepare not only for the business meetings, but also in putting the final touches on a great pre-convention, open-air trolley tour of some of the most interesting sites in Savannah, including lunch at the Pirates House which has the reputation for being "haunted".

Chapter Presidents should have received the proposed General Budget and the proposed Revision changes for discussion with their chapter members before the convention. I urge each of you to review all of this information with your chapter members to enable your delegates to vote respectively for or against these issues during our 71st Convention in Savannah, Georgia, May 15th – 16th, 2015.

We also have three National vacancies to fill: 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President and Secretary. Nominating Chairman Cynthia Chandler has worked diligently and, as a result, has a full slate of officers. It is great that we have women who are willing to join our team of leaders and to expose us to new ideas.

We still have a great amount of work to do to have our membership at a level that

supports our goals, charities and scholarship program. ***I am so proud to report that the 2014-2015 membership numbers reflect an increase of 7.75% from 475 members in 2013-2014 to 511 members as of the end of March.*** I encourage all of you to lend your support in marketing NARBW with a renewed commitment. Let us work together in the spirit of the founding women who knew the power and strength we possess in working for the same goals and with the same purpose.

I am excited and nervous about the upcoming convention; however, looking forward to seeing old friends and making new ones overshadows any apprehension I feel about having to stand at the podium for the first time as your President.

I hope to see all of you in Savannah in May!

Sincerely,

Theresa Harper
National President

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Spring Has Sprung



Spring has sprung, the grass has ris';
I wonder where the birdie is?
There he is up in the sky.
He dropped some whitewash in my eye!
I'm alright, I won't cry,
I'm just glad that cows can't fly!

NATIONAL BOARD NEWS

RESUME OF WINTER BOARD MEETING

February 21, 2015

Savannah, GA

The 2015 Winter Board meeting was held at the Springhill Suites in historic Savannah, Georgia, February 21, 2015.

National Treasurer presented the Treasurer's Reports for the period June 1, 2014, through January 31, 2015.

2nd Vice President Diane Huntington presented the revised President's Handbook and it will be distributed to the Chapter Presidents at the National Convention in May.

Finance Chairman Diane Huntington presented the 2015-2016 Proposed General Operating Budget and it was finalized and will be forwarded to the Chapter Presidents and Emeritus Council.

Nomination Chairman Cynthia Chandler presented the nominations received for Second Vice President, Third Vice President and Secretary. The slate will be forwarded to the Chapter Presidents and Emeritus Council.

Revisions Chairman Tamela Kubicek presented the three revisions that were received and they will be forwarded to the Chapter Presidents and Emeritus Council.

National Convention Chairman Joyce Peak presented her progress report on the 2015 Convention. Plans are well under way for the pre-convention tour and this two-day convention.

The St. Louis Chapter bid to host the 2016 National Convention was accepted. Diane Huntington will serve as Convention Chairman.

All reports were submitted and business was handled in an effective and timely manner.

Diane Huntington
National 2nd Vice President

3RD VICE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

I am happy to report that a "Meet and Greet" was held at the Amtrak Sanford (Orlando) Mechanical offices on March 19th from 4:00 – 5:30 pm. It was an informative meeting where, in total, 17 ladies from mechanical, transportation, retired mechanical, and railroad wives attended. They were a lively group that asked good questions like "What needed to be done to create a chapter?" and "What to do once a chapter was in fact initiated?" I had our NARBW.org website up on the big screen and was able to answer their questions as to where the other chapters are located. I enjoyed showing them past "Capsules" (all the great work we do around our communities) and pictures from last years' convention. My ambitious goal is to have an Orlando/Sanford chapter by the convention or at least ready to go in June for the start of our 2015-2016 year!

If you are aware of other cities that could support an NARBW chapter, please, please, please email me, Melanie McKim, at membership@narbw.org.



NATIONAL BOARD NEWS (Cont.d)

CHAPTER ANNIVERSARIES

Each year, NARBW Chapters are recognized for reaching a five-year milestone. Since our 2014 Convention in Houston, TX, six chapters have celebrated such a milestone. Following is a list of those chapters, along with the number of years each has been a part of NARBW, their charter year, and their first and current presidents.

Chapter Name/ Chapter Number	No. of Years	Charter Date	First President	Current President
Philadelphia/9	65	06/25/49	Louise Yocum	Joan Waite
Louisville/73	35	08/11/79	Doris Blevins	Ruth Ann Spears
Pittsburgh/44	60	01/15/55	Mary O. McCallum	Betty Halligan
Albany/45	60	03/05/55	Helen Ames	Bonnie Crowley
Saginaw-Great Lakes/68	80	03/25/35	Edith W. Pohndorf	Barb Spaulding-Wescott
Indianapolis Circle City/74	35	04/25/80	Agnes Magnus	Donna Carter

Please join me in congratulating these Chapters for the milestones they have achieved this year and for their continued dedication to and support of NARBW.

Sylvia Long, National Secretary

71st National Convention—Savannah, GA—May 15-16, 2015

Hotel Information:

The NARBW Group Rate is \$159 per night.

Parking is available via valet, for \$12.00 per night for NARBW convention guests.

To reserve your room, contact the hotel directly by calling 1-912-629-5300 and selecting the 'group function' option during regular business hours.

All hotel rooms have a sleeper sofa in addition to the bed(s).

The hotel serves a complimentary full hot breakfast every day with coffee, juices, milk, cereal, oatmeal, breads, toppings, waffles, eggs, sausage, etc.

You will also have complimentary wi-fi.

Airport Information:

The Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport is about 10 miles from the hotel. Airport Code SAV.

The K-shuttle is a good option for transportation to and from the airport. Round trip may be purchased for \$30.

Call K-shuttle at 877-243-2050, or book online at

<https://kshuttle.zaui.net/modules/webBooking/index.php?id=11&action=Details>

AMTRAK has a Savannah Station!

Notes... Don't forget your costumes for Fun-Night—Rollin' on the River!

Wear your walking shoes! Savannah is a very walkable city.

Joyce Peak, Convention Chair

CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

ALBANY CHAPTER

The Chapter met on February 11 at the home of Helen Rose who, as host, provided the meal. Each member paid \$10 toward the general fund and also enjoyed a cheesecake (made by Diana Ham) and a Devil's Food Cake with cream cheese frosting. (WOW and YUM!). Members hold 50/50 drawings at each meeting and, once a year, have a bake sale and a white elephant sale. Four Chapter members and four Members at Large will be attending Convention in May. Chapter President Bonnie Crowley has been named Albany Chapter Woman of the Year. A train ride through the Catskill Mountains in New York State is planned for June 19, including a visit to the Blenheim power plant and then on to do some wine tasting.

also given of their many service projects for giving back to the community. Total Welfare hours were 120; while donations amounted to \$596 but had a monetary value of \$4,800. Congratulations, ladies! Pictured next at the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics are: Carrie Beall holding



fresh orange slices for the runners and Chapter President Suzi Hamby giving out

cups of water. Each is planning to participate again this year in Cincinnati for the run that goes across Ohio. The Chapter held a Texas Hold'em Tournament on March 20 in Mt. Healthy, OH, to benefit the National Kidney Foundation. These ladies stay busy!

HOUSTON CHAPTER

Member Martha Haun made an NARBW donation to Rolling Futures Foundation which supports disabled young people needing special equipment, such as wheel chairs, to participate in sports. NARBW was to be recognized on the Foundation's home page. The Chapter continues to volunteer at the MDA Children's Art Project and were honored at their Appreciation Luncheon in March. The Chapter's January 29 meeting was hosted by Tamela Kubicek, with three new members present—Diane Youngblood, Linda Taylor, and Sandra Donaldson. Speaker was Tasha Harvey of Captel (captioned telephone system). Other new members to be welcomed to the Chapter include Marsha Woodard, Sylvia Sierra and Carla Wallace. The Chapter's February meeting was hosted by Lou Ann McClendon where everyone attending received a Valentine-themed door prize, nominations were

received for open offices, and President Ginger Stanberry was chosen as Chapter Woman of the Year. Congratulations, Ginger! Members were asked to bring old blankets, towels, etc. to the meeting for donation to S.N.A.P. where they will be used to keep the animals warm. Ginger asked that donations for S.N.A.P. be brought to any of their meetings. Members attended a painting party at El Ranchero Mexican Food Restaurant in Kingwood on March 1 where local artist, Katy Hayes, came to teach them to paint.



In attendance were: Linda Kovac, Ginger Stanberry, Carla Wallace, Lou Ann McClendon, Cheryl Chambers, Sandy Donaldson, KATY, Debbye Converse and Ida Carmouche (who had to leave early).

ATLANTA CHAPTER

Convention Chairman Joyce Peak and Chapter members are busily making final arrangements with what will be a very exciting 2015 Convention in Savannah. Two meetings in April are planned to tie up any loose ends. Chapter delegates to Convention are Ruth Przedpelski, Vanessa Estell, Tina Garner and Patricia Hampton.

CHICAGO CHAPTER

Treasurer Elaine Gronski reports that President Marie Gallagher has a lady staying in her home to assist with her daily routine. Pat Dunham is back from visiting relatives in HI and is planning a trip to Michigan in May for a family reunion. Lately, members have been unable to get together in one spot for a meeting.

CINCINNATI CHAPTER

The Chapter was recognized in the CSX Louisville Division newsletter for forming the latest chapter of NARBW in 2014 and ending the year with 25 members. Chapter officers were named: President Suzi Hamby of Market & Development, Vice President Bernice Courtenay of Emerging Markets, Secretary Carrie Beall of Industrial & Agriculture and Treasurer Jeanne Young of TRANSFLO. A review was

A Grand Casino Coughatta bus trip was planned for Saturday, March 14, as a fundraiser. Ida was the host of their March 21 brunch meeting held at El Ranchero Restaurant in Kingwood, TX, in honor of Ginger's being chosen as their Woman of the Year and to hold elections. Gail Stephens lost her mother, Margaret Foster, on December 28 after a long illness. Mark Converse, husband of Debbye had knee surgery on January 6 and is still in pain but recovering. Gerry Rodgers was ill with a virus over the holidays. Mildred Matthews, mother of Cheryl Chambers, is recovering from a severe stroke and has other health issues. Ginger Stanberry's daughter-in-law, Trisha, is recovering from neck surgery for a disc replacement.

INDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER

The Chapter was unable to meet until March this quarter due to inclement

CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

INDIANAPOLIS CHARTER CHAPTER (Cont'd.)

weather. Members are busy gathering items for their annual auction on April 20. This is one of their main fundraisers, and all items not sold are donated to Servant's Heart. President Connie Hunt has been chosen as Chapter Woman of the Year. Congratulations, , Connie! New officers for 2015-2017 are: Margaret Elston, President; Gloria Jackson, VP; Barbara Hartwell, Secretary; and Joanne Smith, Treasurer. The Chapter is looking forward to their annual joint meeting in May with members of the Indianapolis Circle City Chapter. They will be observing National Transportation Week and plan to obtain a proclamation from the Governor for Women in Transportation Day. Connie reports that their chapter will have no representation at Convention this year, as her grandson is graduating from high school that weekend. It is with sadness that we report the passing of member Irene Sikes (right) on January 3 at the age of 96. On the Chapter's "Get Well/Stay Well" list are Nina Goins, Ann Carrico, Sarah Haynes, Pat Hulett and Patty Stewart. Barbara Hartwell's young grandson, Oliver, is recovering well from multiple surgeries.



JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER

Mary Warner thanks all who contributed money to PACE Center for Girls over the holidays. Over \$900 in cash and Publix/Winn Dixie gift cards were given out to help supplement the girls' breakfast and lunch during the holiday season when schools are closed. Below is photo taken at the Chapter's annual holiday brunch, held on Satur-



day, December 13, at Hidden Hills Country Club, where Toys for Tots were collected and a gift exchange game was played. Members donated 14 blankets for soldiers stationed in the Middle East at their January 22 meeting and some enclosed a personal note to a soldier. Lori Aronovici, an audiologist at CSX, was the meeting's speaker on hearing and aging. Operation Lifesaver Chair Mary Baldwin reported on OL at the Sheriff's Advisory Council (ShAdCo) Safety Fair on January 17. The Chapter is still looking for a chair or co-chair for its Welfare Committee and a co-chair for its Ways & Means Committee. RADA cutlery and nuts are main fundraisers and are for sale on their Facebook page. The Chapter's February meeting was held at CSX HQ on the 26th. Speaker was Nancy Rushton who spoke on understanding and helping our refugee neighbors. Well, here's what we've all been waiting for—photos of Princess Laura (Gutteridge) and Prince Albert's (Años) wedding on January 17.



The Disney-themed wedding/reception included a stunning "Belle" bridal

gown, an enchanted rose in



a glass case ("Beauty and the Beast") and a chocolate-covered chess game ("Geri's Game). The couple spent their honeymoon traveling thru Europe **AND... THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER! THE END?... NO, THE BEGINNING!**

Mary Baldwin reported on OL happenings: On February 21 & 22, a Wild West Theme Express, boarding at St. Marys, GA, and on March 7, Green Cove Springs Railroad & History Festival in Green Cove Springs, FL. OL presentations were also made at Seaside Community Schools in Atlantic Beach, FL, and at the MacClenny Spring Fling in Heritage Park. Mary Warner reports that over 1,000 books have been donated to, and are in, the PACE Center for Girls' library. Mrs. Mary's Boutique for the girls was held February 18 and 19 with Family Night on February 25.

Pictured with Mary Warner on Family Night is Jill Auld (on the left). Mary asks that members compile their volunteer hours for Chapter recognition at Convention. On March 12, Barbara Miller held her "Barbara Miller and Friends" Dance Fundraiser for her JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Founda-



tion) One Walk Team CSX-Dancin' to a Cure. She thanks all who performed, attended and donated to the cause. Barbara is in the center (left) with red piping on her skirt. Pictured below (in blue) is

Elaine Mosley with daughter Amanda (in beige) and granddaughter Natalie (in black/white).

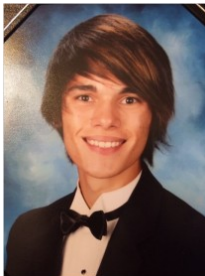


CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER (Cont'd.)

Amanda has been diagnosed with myelofibrosis, a blood cancer, and needs a bone marrow transplant. Elaine urges everyone between the ages of 18 and 45, to consider becoming a bone marrow donor on the national registry. Their website is www.bethematch.org. You can follow Amanda's journey on www.youcaring.com/amandapaffe. The Chapter's March 26 meeting was a luau held at CSX HQ and catered by Steamin's Fire and Water Catering. Angel Shiver gave a glimpse into her work life at Crowley, and orders were taken for Pampered Chef products to raise money for their Scholarship Fund. Their Q4 membership activity is planned for a trip to the Alhambra to see the musical "9 to 5" on either October 9 or October 16. Members are urged to get their bios and photos to Laura Años ASAP. Winners of Jacksonville's Scholarship Awards are:

Cassidy Miller
(right), niece of
Barbara Miller,



and Ethan Paffe
(left), grandson of
Elaine Mosley. Con-
gratulations to these

two young people! A Portraits of PACE fundraising luncheon was held on March 26, and Mary Warner continued to collect books for PACE's library through the first quarter of 2015. Members will participate in the JDRF Walk to Cure Diabetes on April 11 and the MS Walk and Vision Walk on April 25. We are sad to report that Past National President Barbara Barthle's mother, Dorothy L. Brantley, passed away on February 26. Our sincere condolences are sent to Barbara and her family.

KANSAS CITY CHAPTER

Members participated in the IAAP KCK Sunflower Chapter's final perfor-

mance which took place at the Salvation Army in Olathe, KS. The group sold pecans to those in attendance.



L-R—Bonnie Jameson, Susan Steffen, Savanna Hubbard, Megan Wilbur, Chrystal Tonkin, Shelley Currier and Rhonda Gomez.

The star performer, Susan Meyer, who spoke about "More Laughs—Less Stress" was very entertaining. The Chapter's newsletter carried a quote by *Maya Angelou* which is, and has been, very appropriate: **"How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-heroes! I love to see a young girl go out and grab the world by the lapels. Life's a bitch. You've got to go out and kick ass..."** The Chapter's March meeting included a St. Patrick's Day Raffle for a cooler on wheels, containing Boulevard Brewery items, a few St. Pat's Day novelties, two t-shirts and a gift certificate for dinner for two at the Dubliner Pub.

LOUISVILLE CHAPTER

The Chapter did not meet in January due to unpredictability of the weather. Their February, March and April meetings were held at Buck's Restaurant. Members were asked to bring information on their volunteer hours to the March meeting; and instead of an Easter Basket Raffle in April, members were asked to donate \$25 to the Welfare fund.

OMAHA CHAPTER

Anya Jackson's beautiful little baby girl who was featured in last quarter's newsletter is named Aniya Justice Jackson. She was born on December 17, 2014, weighing 8 lbs., 0 oz., and was



21" in length. She is adored by big sisters Aleigha and Aleisha. Congratulations to the family! The Chapter sold Savings Sidekicks books for \$20 each, netting the Chapter a profit of \$10 for every book sold. They are also selling chocolate bars to raise money for their Chapter Scholarship Program and each bar sold brings a profit of 50 cents. Scholarships totaling \$1,200 will be awarded in May. The date for their 6th Annual Golf Tournament has been scheduled for Friday, August 7, 2015, at Shoreline, one week earlier than in past years. It is felt that this earlier date may bring more participation. Members are also requesting items to fill baskets for a spring raffle. Their January 8 meeting was held at the Farmhouse Café in Omaha. President Connie Prokupek was chosen as Chapter Woman of the Year. Congratulations, Connie! Members played a version of Left-Right-Center to exchange ornaments brought to the meeting. Welcome is extended to their newest member, Molly Frazer, a crew dispatcher in the Harriman Center. Congratulations to Libbie Hasselquist who was accepted into the Marketing and Sales Training Program. The Chapter's February meeting was held at Cantina Laredo in Midtown Crossing. Member Kay Leslie has agreed to run for National Secretary and members are urged to attend Convention to show support for their candidate. The Chapter Congratulates Debra Ready on her retirement as Regional Team Leader for Twin Cities effective February 27. The Chapter's March 5 meeting was held at Clancy's Pub in Omaha. The Chapter held an Easter Egg Hunt and Party on April 4 for the Stephens Center. Several members visited the Katharine Hepburn exhibit at the Durham Museum on March 29 and enjoyed ice cream at the Durham's soda fountain. New officers elected by acclimation are: Connie Prokupek, President; Casey Zahner, Vice President; Anne Menichetti, secretary; and Molly Frazer, Treasurer. The Chapter's four Convention delegates are: Sue Hess, Kay Leslie, Connie Prokupek and Sally Sofio. Their

CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

OMAHA CHAPTER (Cont'd.)

Spring Raffle of Baskets netted the Chapter \$895. The grand prize of cash and gift cards was won by Amy Schapp. The Chapter thanks Sandy Gabrenja for another successful event and Cynthia Chandler for donating \$50 to the raffle. Members are reminded that gift items for door prizes are needed for the golf tournament. The deadline to make application for Omaha's Scholarship Program was March 31. Their next meeting will be at Jimi D's in Omaha on April 2. Amy Schapp is home and on the mend following surgery. She is much missed by her team at work. Annie West-Johnson is sporting a brilliant pink cast from her knuckles to almost her elbow following thumb surgery. Sympathy is extended to Sue Hess on the passing of her sister, Dorothy Ceballos, and to Colleen Brabec and family on the recent passing of her mother-in-law.

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

The Chapter held a Pampered Chef demo at one of the members' homes in January. The food was awesome, and the Chapter was given 40% on the sale of on-site, carry-out items and 10% on the cost of all orders, a profit for the Chapter of \$100. Faye MacInnis's retirement was celebrated with a nice cake following the wonderful meal. The Chapter's Christmas Candy Sale netted a profit of \$100. Their February meeting was cancelled due to yet more snow. Michele Detrick's retirement was celebrated at their March meeting. After discussion, members decided to vote "yes" on the three proposed revisions to be brought up for vote at Convention. Elections were held and Rae Huebner is their new President-Elect and will be installed in June. One of their newest members, Roxanne Williams has stepped up to be Secretary and Michele Detrick will be their new VP. Krista Keene has agreed to stay on as Treasurer. Congratulations to all these ladies. Maryanne MacLure is on the mend following surgery, but missed their March meeting because of her grandson's 1st birthday party (definitely a priority!). Maryann Santitiro fell on ice, run-

ning for her train in January. She was on a cane at their March meeting, but appears to be recovering quite nicely. Renee Noble's husband continues to experience health issues.

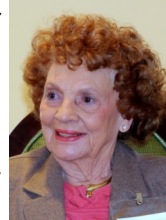
PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

President Betty Halligan advises that she's one of the "Snow Birds" who spends time in Florida during the cold winter months. She just returned after two months in that wonderful, warmer climate and advises that their Chapter will resume meeting on April 17. We're glad to have you back, Betty!

ROANOKE CHAPTER

Members continue to donate magazines and used books for veterans during their stay at the V.A. Hospital. Their February 7 meeting was held at Club Friendship where members donated \$105 cash which, along with a Chapter budgeted allocation of \$50, totaled \$155 for St. Francis House families who are starting over. Also donated for St. Francis were clothing, shoes and household items. Additional donations by members at this meeting were cans of soup, crackers, and other canned goods, along with \$85 in cash, in support of the League of older Americans' "Soup for Seniors" Project. A budgeted \$100 donation was also made to National's Alzheimer's Project. The February meeting was a celebration of the Chapter's 63rd birthday, and in recognition of long-

ber was recognized for her length of NARBW service. Frances Lowe (right) has served in many capacities during her 62 years of membership in the Chapter. Congratulations,



Frances. On January 6, Joanne Perry, Welfare Co-Chair for Toiletries, along with Jessie Swiercinski, Sandy Williams and Pat Prillaman, delivered pre-sorted toiletries in abundance to the Rescue Mission, the Salvation Army's Turning Point, RAM House and St. Francis Catholic Charities. A trip was also made to the Cave Spring Lions Club to drop off used eyeglasses. En route, a lady in distress (and in a powered wheelchair) was assisted in getting the huge box of groceries she'd received from a local food bank to her home several miles away. The lady's friend was phoned and met the group outside the home, well in advance of the lady's wheelchair arrival. Chapter 19 is now on Facebook. Check them out! At its February meeting, Sylvia Long, Membership Chairman, assisted by Committee Members Sherry Chambers and Pam Custis, installed five new members.



L-R: Sylvia Long, Membership Chair, with new members Bonnie Witt, Shirley Mills and Tessa Muehlendyck.



standing members Virginia Austin, shown on left (35 years), and Jessie Swiercinski shown on right (31 years). Sylvia Long, Membership Chairman, is second from left and Chapter President Kathy Barbour is next. Congrats, ladies. At the Chapter's Christmas luncheon and meeting, another mem-



L-R: New members Ramona Muehlendyck and Maureen Rosamilia with Membership Committee Members Sherry Chambers and Pam Custis

CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

ROANOKE CHAPTER (Cont'd.)

In the following photo are L-R Kathy Fortune, Carol Meador, Sherry Chambers and Wanda Centers. The Chapter



is saddened by their upcoming relocation to Norfolk or Atlanta due to the transfer of their jobs by NS. All are very valuable members of NARBW, and the Chapter wishes them every success in their new locations. They will be greatly missed! The Chapter has one applicant for a National Scholarship Award—Alyssa Bolt, Shirley Stanton's great niece who is in her first year at the University of Miami. Joanne Perry, Scholarship Chairman, advises that in addition to the Chapter's budgeted donation of \$500 to the National Scholarship Fund, members have donated an additional \$250. Following the Chapter meeting on March 4, members stuffed plastic Easter Eggs with candies for the Salvation Army's Turning Point children.



L-R : Joanne Perry, Jessie Swiercinski, Shirley Stanton, Elaine Parks and Gwen Kropff.

R-L: Mary Lee Cabbler, Muriel Bray, Linda French and Doris Underwood.

On March 17, members hosted a St. Patrick's Day Party for the veterans at the



V.A. Hospital, where they interacted with the patients, served them sandwiches, cheese puffs and Klondike bars, and listened to genuine Celtic music being played by a true Irishman. A dessert shower for the Ronald McDonald House is the Chapter's project for April. Joyce Higgs' sister, Alzie Kesler, is home from Springtree and doing well. Betty Gregory, Joyce's sister and Cathy St.Clair's mother, had minor surgery and is recovering at home. Joyce herself has a torn meniscus in one knee and was to see a doctor on January 16. Corbin Craig is out of the hospital and recovering from a bout with pneumonia. Linda Barlow is taking therapy following shoulder replacement. Chick Graves' sight is improving after cornea repair. Linda Taylor's daughter, T.J. Stewart, is in P.T. at the V.A., but planned a skiing trip to Aspen in March. Sympathy is extended to Joyce Mills on the passing of her Aunt Ruby Lovern. Joyce's brother, Jim Sult had surgery to remove a portion of one foot due to diabetes and has lost most of his sight. Joyce's daughter-in-law's father, Don Fines, had a heart catheterization on March 15 after suffering a heart attack on March 14. Angelia (Boochie) Legans fell on ice and fractured her L-4 and L-5 vertebrae, as well as her tailbone. She had a doctor's appointment on March 17 to discuss options. Sympathy is extended to Brandi Smith's family in the passing of her father-in-law, Harry Lewis (H.L) Smith on March 15.

SAGINAW-GREAT LAKES CHAPTER

The Chapter is celebrating its 80th anniversary and plans a luncheon meeting with cake. Arlene Haynes located some early clippings of their members and these will be shared at the meeting. Hopefully, there will be photos taken to share in the next "Capsule." Members are also planning a day at the Flint Amtrak Station for National Train Day. They plan to have a display and some train color sheets for the kids. Some of their members have not returned from warmer cli-

mates, but their snow is about gone and there is less ice on the lakes. Doris Hermes, Fran Minich-Dye and Barbara Alexander are still having health issues.

ST. LOUIS CHAPTER

Their December meeting was at the home of Peggy Kuehle. Peggy fixed a great meal and members exchanged Christmas gifts. Peggy also gave each member a jar of sweet snack mix. Scholarship Raffle Tickets were the Chapter's fundraiser for March, netting a profit of \$110 for the National fund.

SAVE THE DATE

May 13-14, 2016—NARBW 72nd Annual Convention at the West Port Plaza Sheraton in St. Louis, MO. The pre-convention tour planned for May 12 will include a trip to the top of the Gateway Arch! Mark your calendars!

Their February 14 meeting was hosted by Debbie Michler at Ari's with the usual 50/50-Plus and a white elephant sale. Winners of the 50/50-Plus at their March meeting were Brenda West, Cheryl Horne, Debbie Michler, Diane Huntington, Margaret Ruffin and Mary Ann Will. Current officers were voted back into office: Melba Cookston, President; Debbie Michler, VP; Margaret Ruffin, Secretary; and Cheryl Horne, Treasurer. The only member the Chapter has attending the Savannah Convention is Diane Huntington. More things are needed for their White Elephant table in time for their April 11 meeting at Ari's. President Melba Cookston advises that Margaret Ruffin had a quadruple bypass on January 8, following a heart attack on January 6. Get well wishes are sent to Margaret.

TOPEKA HEARTLAND CHAPTER

President Nancy Lord advises that she and Dee Woodson will be attending Convention in Savannah. Sympathy is extended to Kay Rigdon on the death of her husband Jack. Get well wishes to Bonnie Hartzel, Ruth Hunnicutt and Virginia Arlint.

CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

TWIN CITIES CHAPTER

The Chapter's Christmas meeting at Lake Elmo Inn, hosted by Karen Brennan (standing below), Carole Dahlquist



and Melissa Molitor, had 37 attendees, including Pat and Danny Cohen (couple on right) who came from the Twin Ports Chapter. The 50/50 drawing was won by Joan Merteo, Anna Petersen's granddaughter. Members brought books and toiletry items for military personnel and 30 pounds of food for Merrick's Community Center's food shelf. A 3-foot train was furnished for raffle by Karen and Carole and won by Charlie Kuster-



man's sister, Joanne Miller. Bracelets from Mesa, AZ, were also donated by Karen, and there were enough for everyone in attendance. Karen and Carole have agreed to host the 2015 Christmas Lunch at Axle's Supper Club in Mendota Heights. Carole Dahlquist drove to Mesa, AZ, on January 1, and flew home on January 7. She then drove to Fargo, NE, on January 26 and left after having lunch with her granddaughter for Longmont, CO to see her brother. The weather was fine (70° mostly) until her drive home on February 1 (Fog freezing on windshield from I-80 to I-90, then ice on I-90 from Mitchell, SD to Mankato, MN. We're glad you made it home safe and sound, Carole! The Chapter's March meeting was at Yarusso's. Members were invited to attend a presentation honoring Nellie Stone Johnson & The Civil Rights & Labor Struggles of The Past & Present in February at the University of Minnesota's Urban Research & Outreach Center in Minneapolis. Muriel Lasky, former member of the Twin Cities Chapter passed away last summer. Mary Ann Ronkainen's husband, Armand, passed away in April.

Steve Perna, Norma and Pat Perna's son, passed away last fall and Valerie Meyer's brother has also passed away. Our deepest sympathy to these families. Patty Helling is recovering from knee surgery.

TWIN PORTS CHAPTER

President Pat Cohen, returning from an 8-week vacation, sent the following info: Shown is a plaque the Chapter had made for display on the Proctor Historical Museum building, once the Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range Railway Company (DM&IR) Yardmaster's Office and former worksite for many Narbies. The plaque is engraved with the Chapter's charter date, and the building where displayed is located in Proctor just 7 miles from Duluth.



BUYING A WATCH IN 1880!

If you were in the market for a watch in 1880, would you know where to get one? You would go to a store, right? Well, of course you could do that, but if you wanted one that was cheaper and a bit better than most of the store watches, you went to the train station! Sound a bit funny?

Well, for about 500 towns across the northern United States, that's where the best watches were found.

Why were the best watches found at the train station? The railroad company wasn't selling the watches, not at all. The telegraph operator was.

Most of the time the telegraph operator was located in the railroad station because the telegraph lines followed the railroad tracks from town to town. It was usually the shortest distance and the right-of-ways had already been secured for the rail line.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and that was the primary way that they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at their next station.

And it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact, they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about 9 years.

This was all arranged by "Richard", who was a telegraph operator himself. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the East. It was a huge crate of pocket watches.

No one ever came to claim them. So Richard sent a telegram to the

manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches. The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them.

So Richard did. He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch. He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit.

That started it all. He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers.

It worked! It didn't take long for the word to spread and, before long, people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches.

Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watch maker to help him with the orders. That was Alvah. And the rest is history as they say. The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods.

Richard and Alvah left the train station and moved their company to Chicago—and it's still there.

Yes, it's a little known fact that for a while in the 1880's, the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station. It all started with a telegraph operator: **Richard Sears** and his partner **Alvah Roebuck**!

That's History, ladies!





National Association of Railway Business Women

SEVENTY FIRST (71st) NATIONAL CONVENTION

“Rollin’ on the River”

**Springhill Suites by Marriott—Savannah Historic District
Hostess Chapter—Atlanta, GA**

Room Name

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

<i>Lobby</i>	3:30 PM — 5:30 PM	Registration
<i>Boardroom</i>	4:00 PM — 7:00 PM	Pre-Convention Board Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 2015

<i>Lobby</i>	8:00 AM — 4:30 PM	Pre-Convention Tour (Savannah Historic District)
<i>Lobby</i>	5:00 PM — 7:00 PM	Registration
<i>Liberty</i>	6:00 PM — 9:00 PM	Hospitality

Friday, May 15, 2015

<i>Montgomery</i>	8:00 AM — 5:00 PM	Marketplace
<i>Lobby</i>	8:00 AM — 8:30 AM	Registration
<i>Liberty</i>	8:30 AM — 9:30 AM	Formal Opening
<i>Liberty</i>	9:30 AM — 11:00 AM	Business Meeting
<i>Liberty</i>	11:30 AM — 1:45 PM	President’s Lunch
<i>Liberty</i>	2:00 PM — 4:00 PM	Business Meeting
<i>Lobby</i>	5:00 PM — 6:00 PM	Trolley Shuttles to the Riverboats
	6:30 PM — 10:00 PM	Fun Night—“Rollin’ on the River” Dinner Cruise—Dress like pirates or wenches
		Candidate’s Reception will be on the boat (Nominating Chairman—Cynthia Chandler)

Saturday, May 16, 2015

<i>Montgomery</i>	8:00 AM — 1:00 PM	Marketplace
<i>Liberty</i>	8:30 AM — 9:00 AM	Memorial Service
<i>Liberty</i>	9:15 AM — 10:30 AM	Business Meeting
<i>Oglethorpe</i>	10:30 AM — 11:00 AM	Elections
<i>Liberty</i>	11:15 AM — 1:15 PM	Membership Luncheon
<i>Liberty</i>	1:30 PM — 4:30 PM	Business Meeting
<i>Boardroom</i>	4:30 PM — 5:30 PM	Post-Convention Board Meeting
<i>Breakfast Area</i>	6:00 PM — 7:00 PM	Reception
<i>Liberty</i>	7:00 PM — 10:00 PM	Formal Banquet

Sunday, May 17, 2015

Depart

National Association of Railway Business Women

National 50/50 Drawing

<p>National Association of Railway Business Women 50/50 Drawing – May 16, 2015</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Chapter _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Donation – One Dollar</p>	<p>National Association of Railway Business Women 50/50 Drawing – May 16, 2015</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Chapter _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Donation – One Dollar</p>
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The National Board of Directors is continuing the tradition of the National 50/50 Drawing to be held at the National Convention in Savannah, Georgia on May 16, 2015. The proceeds from the drawing will be divided in half, with half of the proceeds donated to the National General Fund and half of the proceeds being divided among the winners, based on the number of tickets sold. Please take time to fill out the raffle tickets above and mail your check (Payable to NARBW) to our Finance Chairman Diane Huntington. Act now to begin building the fund. The more you enter the more chances to win!!!!

Please duplicate the tickets and sell to your friends, co-workers, neighbors and family!!

Diane Huntington, 4411 Hickory Lane, Hillsboro, Missouri 63050