

# CAPSULE

Volume 11, Issue 2

July/August/September 2006

MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Dear NARBW Members:

By the time you receive this message the “dog days of summer” will have passed and, hopefully, we can be settling down to a beautiful fall season. I dearly love this time of year, looking forward to the cool weather, leaves changing, fun holidays beginning with Halloween, continuing through Thanksgiving with family and close friends and before you turn around good, it’s Christmas!

On a more recent note, I have just had the pleasure of attending the District I Fall Conference in Albany, NY. The leaves were just beginning to change in upstate New York and what a beautiful sight! Being from Florida, it is not often I get to appreciate the changing of seasons so I take every opportunity to enjoy the cooler weather in our northern states when possible. The Albany Chapter hosted the conference and their hospitality, along with the program planned by District Director Melanie Bennett and Secretary Lisa Stout, was outstanding. At their meeting, they also shared some very inventive fundraising ideas and I have a new personal favorite “the silent auction”. We toured Albany on the Aqua Duck, what a beautiful city with so much history, ending with a ride on the river. It was simply a wonderful day and it was so nice being able to have more time to talk one-on-one with our members.



Next week I am also attending the District II Fall Conference in Atlanta, GA and am really looking forward to seeing everyone. I am really enjoying my term as president and encourage each of you to just move a little bit out of your comfort zone, step up to the plate and run for office. In May 2007 our convention body will be electing a National Secretary, National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and National 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President. In addition, our District II Director and District II Secretary-Treasure positions will be open. These positions are excellent for learning more about our organization. I see so much talent in so many of you and sincerely hope you will consider running for office.

I would like to add one more item to my message and it is a special “thank you” to a very dynamic person and that is Joyce Higgs, our National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Who would have thought that a cookbook could generate such interest and be such a wonderful fundraiser for NARBW? Joyce is such an asset and we are so fortunate to have her on the National Board.

Thanks to all the chapters who forward me their newsletters. It helps keep me informed and I thoroughly enjoy reading them.

With warm regards,

**Barbara Barthle**  
National President



## *Inside this issue...*

- Scholarship Winners
- District Conferences
- Summer Board Resumé
- Legislative Updates

## *RESUME OF SUMMER BOARD MEETING*

National Treasurer, Joan Waite presented Annual Report covering net worth of the Association, followed by other Treasurer reports.

President Barthle reported she was interviewed for an article in the CSX Gateway Spotlight, highlighting National President's Position, giving the NARBW more publicity.

All National Officers and Committee Members proceeded with their plans of work, which were discussed, approved and will be distributed in accordance with the Bylaws.

Revisions Chairman Theresa Harper presented her report and discussion followed regarding a committee to review the Bylaws before reprinting and distributing. Sandy Hall, Joyce Higgs and Cynthia Chandler volunteered to work with Theresa on this project.

Residence Chairman Diane Huntington reported she would send a letter to all residence occupants advising of her contact numbers as well as serve official notice of the rental rate increases effective January 1, 2007.

District I Director Melanie Bennett reported that their Fall Conference would be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Albany, NY on September 22-24, 2006.

District II Director Elaine Mosley reported that their Fall Conference would be held at Crowne Plaza Hotel in Atlanta, GA, on October 13-15, 2006.

The winter Board Meeting will be in Jekyll Island, GA on February 9-10, 2007, the location of the 2007 Convention.

The National Board meeting was adjourned on Saturday July 15, 2006 at 5:05 PM.

Barbara Barthle, President

Joyce Higgs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

### **National Association of Retired and Veteran Railway Employees**

NARVRE was founded 69 years ago to protect the rights of railroad retirees. NARVRE has fought numerous battles to protect and preserve the Railroad Retirement System. Much of the legislative information that I pass on to you comes from NARVRE's legislative alerts. Their female members would all be eligible to join NARBW.

Check out their website to see if there is a unit in your area. NARBW and NARVRE have a lot in common.

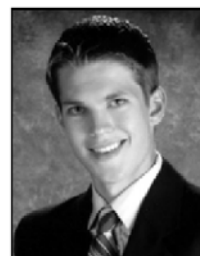
## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS...

At the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual convention in Indianapolis, the most recent winners of the NARBW scholarships were announced. The nine winners were chosen from among the 43 applications received. Every member should be proud of our Scholarship Program, which began in 1978. Our scholarships have made a difference in the education of 212 students through the gift of \$196,200.00 in financial aid. The Scholarship Program is a vital asset of our Association.

**Richard L. Patton III**  
**\$1500 scholarship Award**  
**Sarah Barker Memorial Scholarship**

Richard is a senior at St. Charles Preparatory school in Blacklick, OH. He volunteers at Children's Hospital, plays Lacrosse, lettered in drama and has a 3.67 GPA. Richard also works at Circuit City. He says he "loves sales – the opportunity to serve, lead and influence people on a daily basis". Richard plans to major in International business at Ohio State University. Richard was sponsored by his grandmother Mary Patton of the Cincinnati Chapter.

Richard thanks the ladies of NARBW for the honor of the Sarah Barker Memorial Scholarship. He assures us it will be put to good use.



**Monica Slack**  
**\$1000 scholarship Award**

Monica will receive the \$1000 Hazelle Anderson Memorial Scholarship. This is Monica's second NARBW scholarship. Monica describes herself as a devoted student who has compassion in her heart for the sick. She felt a calling in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and has volunteered for over 4000 hours at a local hospital since. She plans to become a nurse practitioner in Pediatric Oncology. She has a 3.9 GPA at Xavier University in Cincinnati. Betty Dusing of the Cincinnati Chapter sponsored her Granddaughter.

Monica wants everyone to know "she is honored and grateful. She wants everyone to know how much she appreciates our contribution to her education".



**Kendra Wells**  
**\$1000 scholarship Award**

This is Kendra's 2<sup>nd</sup> NARBW scholarship. She is majoring in Business Marketing at the University of Nebraska in Omaha. She has worked for the last 6 years at a local restaurant so has an understanding of the demands of the business world. Her mother Bernadette Wells of the Omaha Chapter sponsored Kendra.

Kendra writes "it is a great honor to receive this award a second time. It will help immensely in financing my education." She expressed her thanks to NARBW for our generosity and confidence in her and her education.



**Rachel Loyd**  
**\$1000 scholarship Award**

Rachel has been active in her church where she started a Children's Choir, volunteers to minister to Inner City kids, teaches Sunday Schools, raises money for Campaign Calvary to build a Christian school and has just returned from a mission in Trinidad. She works part time, teaches piano and has a 3.79 GPA. She plans to become a dental hygienist. Her Aunt Melanie Bennett of the Indianapolis Circle City Chapter sponsored Rachel.

Rachel wrote, "It is a privilege and an honor to have received this award. It will be a tremendous help in financing her education." She thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to attend the Convention banquet.



## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS...

### **Melanie Bennett**

#### **\$1000 scholarship Award**

Melanie is a member of the Indianapolis Circle City Chapter. She was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to help with her studies at the University of Indianapolis earning her Bachelor's degree in Business - Human Resources. Melanie has worked for Amtrak for 16 years. She began as a timekeeper and worked her way into management. She is currently a planning specialist. She has been a NARBW member for 6 years and served as Chapter President of the Indianapolis Circle City chapter and as the National Convention Chairman.



Melanie wrote she "will put the scholarship to good use and it helps relieve so much stress knowing that a few more of my classes are will be paid. It is a good feeling knowing all these great ladies of the RR support me!"

### **Andrew Barry**

#### **\$1000 scholarship Award**

Andrew will receive a \$1000 scholarship. He attends Lake Superior State University with a double major in Geology and Mathematics in preparation to become a secondary education teacher. He works as a geo-physics intern and a swim coach. He participates on the track team and is active in the campus Christian activities. This is his 2<sup>nd</sup> NARBW scholarship; his grandmother Geraldine Holmes of Saginaw was his sponsor.



Andrew has been busy this summer but called to say that it was "wonderful news to have been awarded his 2<sup>nd</sup> NARBW scholarship."

### **Michelle Cihon**

#### **\$1000 Scholarship Award**

Michelle has been awarded her 2<sup>nd</sup> \$1,000 scholarship. Michelle is attending the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities majoring in Family Social Science. She plans to earn her doctorate and become a Pharmacist. She works as a registered Pharmacy Technician, plays lacrosse, serves as the community service co-chair for her residence hall and maintains a 3.7 GPA. Lisa Cohen, of the Twin Cities Chapter sponsored her daughter, Michelle.



Michelle wrote to "Thank every NARBW member for the honor" of awarding her this 2<sup>nd</sup> scholarship.

### **Troy Layne Pierce**

#### **\$1000 scholarship Award**

His Aunt Mia Rogers of the Jacksonville Chapter sponsored Layne. Layne as his family calls him, is attending Embry Riddle, the "best college in Aerospace Engineering". He is taking an advanced curriculum in aviation technology and plans to become a pilot. He has worked since high school to help pay for his education, is involved in his church and maintains a 4.0 GPA.



Layne wants to "thank everyone involved in selecting him for the scholarship. It means a lot to him to know there are caring organizations like NARBW to provide scholarship.

### **Jennifer Rodriguez**

#### **\$1000 scholarship Award**

Jennifer will use her scholarship to continue her studies at the California College of the Arts. Jennifer's art has earned her the Bank of America Achievement Award, a Faculty Honors Award and an Award of Merit at the California State Fair. She works as a gallery attendant as well as a salesperson at Nordstrom's and finds time to volunteer at the SPCA. Her major is Fine Arts/ Illustration and hopes to become a freelance Illustrator or apply her creativity to the commercial world. Jennifer's sponsor is her grandmother, Bonnie Buechner of the Sacramento Chapter.



Jennifer thanks NARBW for helping her achieve her goal of obtaining a Bachelor's degree.

*DISTRICT I CONFERENCE...*



**Albany:** Congratulations ladies on a wonderful District Conference.

**Altoona:** Get well wishes to Lavada McCallen, Nancy DeLozier & Joan Rhiver. Plans are underway for their Coral (35<sup>th</sup>) Chapter Anniversary.

**Atlanta:** Get well wishes to Dot Chumley. Norma Christopher enjoyed her trip to Nova Scotia. Jessie Powell and Myrtle Wells have also been traveling. Atlanta chapter is collecting tabs for Ronald McDonald house and toiletries for the Women's shelter.

**Baltimore:** Welcome to new member Pat Laygon. Get well wishes to Cleo Evans, Anita Jeppi, Pat Lewis. Special birthday wishes to Helen Nelsen (89) and Adelaide Wehrenberg (84) still active NARBW's! Baltimore is celebrating all its members in turn by publishing a biography of one member every month.

**Chicago:** The National Board held their summer board meeting in Chicago and enjoyed lunch with some of the Chicago chapter members. Marie Gallagher's sister-in-law passed away, she had been in poor health for some time. Edith Cahn's husband Eric passed away. He always attended the Chicago chapter social functions. Eleanor Johnson and her husband have moved to Arizona and filled everyone in on the pros and cons of life in Sun City. Elena Pollo, a lifetime member passed away. She was 91 years young.

**Cincinnati:** Welcome to new members Jean Wilson and Suzi Cardoni. Get well wishes to Doris Stemmer, Eileen Zilberberg, Virginia Connor, and Margaret Harrison, Betty Dusing, Edna Kibbe and Helen Hebel.

**Ft. Worth:** Fort Worth is holding a raffle during the month of October. Kay Jacoby is doing well and is planning on a trip soon to Atlanta. Judy Sexton recently married and as now Judy Chamberlain.

**Houston:** Addie Ruth Maiden is on the road to recovery and anxiously waiting for her son, Staff Sergeant Brian Cash to return from Iraq on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October. The Chapter is planning a bus trip to Coushatta in November. They are picking their secret pals for the year and planning a candy sale.

**Indianapolis Charter:** Everyone enjoyed the summer bus trip to the Argosy Riverboat Casino in Lawrenceburg, IN. One lucky lady won a \$500 diamond necklace! Get well wishes to Dora Brown, Pat McGovern, Pat Amrhien, Laverne Mercurio & Phyllis Finchum. They continue to collect used cell phones, eyeglasses and tabs for Ronald McDonald house. Congratulations to Barbara Hartwell on her recent retirement from CSX.

**Indianapolis Circle City:** Melanie Bennett was honored with the President's Achievement Award from Amtrak! This is Amtrak's most prestigious award. Welcome to their two new members: Nancy Harmon and Debra Anderson. Molly Tuner-Birdsong's daughter Katie is a contestant in the Miss Indiana Pageant. Lots of members have been traveling: Malinda Cross is headed for Greece, Melanie Bennett just returned from San Antonio, Jan Oviatt from a summer in Minnesota and Kathy Burks went to Michigan for golf.

**Jacksonville:** The Jacksonville Chapter is busy preparing for the National Convention, committees made a trip to Jekyll Island to tour the facilities. Members are enjoying a monthly brown bag lunch as a chance to learn more about other members. Fundraisers are underway for the scholarships that the chapter awards. Members will be helping at the Operation Lifesaver booth at the Swap Fest held in Folkston, GA.

**Louisville:** Christmas in July was held at the July meeting. Everyone bought a wrapped gift that was auctioned off. \$151 was raised to benefit the chapter welfare fund. The next fundraiser is a "White Elephant" sale.

**Omaha:** Welcome to new members Emily Friend, Julie Lane and Mary Ann Leaton. President Dianne Koppleman is settled in her new home in Wisconsin – that is quite a commute for NARBW meetings. The members have started selling raffle tickets for their annual fundraiser.

## BULLETINS...

**Philadelphia:** Chapter is busy raising money for welfare. They have a flea market planned for October as well as a bus trip to New York to see the play WICKED. They plan to continue volunteering in hospitals and teaching reading. A See's and Marion's candy sale is planned

**Pittsburgh:** Past National President Elinore Prize broke her hip. She has our get well wishes. Pittsburgh's plan is for members to enjoy each other's company and to be helpful where needed.

**Richmond:** Richmond is sad to report the death of Lena Mae Urban. A contribution was made to National Welfare Project, Women's Cancer Research.

**Roanoke:** Roanoke's summer outing was dinner at the Liberty Station followed by The Perfect Wedding" play. Plans have been made for successful fundraisers and welfare activities where every member can participate, starting with a donation to the Wounded Warrior Project. The chapter hosted a bridal shower for Meghan Okuley. Get well wishes to Barbara Craft, Jane Chapin, Marla Sharp and Bertha Schoolcraft.

**Sacramento:** Jennifer Rodriguez, recent scholarship winner attended the August meeting to thank the chapter for their support. President Clara Myers is asking all members to keep the chapter active. She was overwhelmed with the gift of a President's pin, roses, cake and cards – "The true joy of life is in the journey and sharing it with you is fantastic."

**Saginaw:** The chapters Operation Lifesaver coloring books and crayons are handed out to children riders at the Flint station. Barb Spaulding-Westcott is recovering from the 20,000 guests who visited the "Thomas the Tank" traveling show.

**St. Louis:** A storm left many St. Louis residents and NARBW members without power for more than a week during a very hot July. Canned goods were collected for the local food pantry (Feed my People). They are participating in the Meal a Month program to provide balanced meals to local families. An Avon party is planned as a fund-raiser.

**Topeka:** Everyone is staying healthy. All have good appetites. Topeka is having a raffle for a terror train ride October 20th at Baldwin, KS put on by the Baldwin Historical Society. Our basket has s'more ingredients, cider, gas money, Halloween decorations and 4 tickets to ride the train. Margaret Woods has been selling train clocks, and key chains at the Old Timers Meeting (retired railroad workers). Dee Woodson and her husband have been to Thailand. Vicki Crouse went to Colorado to visit friends.

**Tucson:** Tucson is still volunteering at the Green Valley Food Bank. They bring in things that they need. They also hold a sale inside the Food Bank, splitting the profits between the Food Bank and the Chapter. In November, they will cater a lunch for the Green Valley Men's Railroad Club. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> time they have catered for them. The clubs brings in a TV and watch a railroad clip. They enjoy coming to the residence, as they can sit outside on the back veranda and discuss their model trains.

**Twin Cities:** Get well wishes to Mary Cox. The Hallie Q. Brown Community Center extended it thanks to the Twin Cities chapter for their support and especially to Ventress Roberson for her service on their board of Directors. Happy retirement to Joanne Brelje and Charlene Kusterman.

**Twin Ports:** Twin Ports has begun their fundraising with "happenings books" and a Home Interiors sale. Their annual See's candy sale will begin in November. Get well wishes to Florence Hagolin, Jean Breemeersch, Teckla Nelson, Marilyn Persch and Jane Olsen.

**Members at Large** – Welcome to 2 new members at large – Donna Bastarache of Carthage, NC who enjoys hiking, biking, gardening and reading and Cynthia Koroma of Chicago, IL.

## *DISTRICT 1 CONFERENCE - SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2006 ...*

Albany NY September 22-24, 2006

Nine chapters were able to attend the District 1 Conference held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in historic downtown Albany, NY. District Director, Melanie Bennett and Lisa Stout, District Secretary – Treasurer conducted the morning meeting. The reports of the Chapter Presidents lead to a discussion on successful fundraisers. A report on preparing chapter budgets lead to a discussion on ways to increase membership. Monica Rodan, of the Philadelphia Chapter, was elected as District 1 nominating chairman. Chicago Chapter announced that they would host the 2007 District I conference.

The afternoon's entertainment was a tour of the city on the Albany Duck, a terra-hydra amphibious vehicle. Our group enjoyed the drive around town and the tour guide who pointed out the items of interest and sprinkled in some of the wonderful history of the Albany area. One of the highlights was when the Duck took to the water and sailed down the Hudson River.

Between the breakfast buffet and the closing banquet the chapters held fundraisers. The District had a silent auction with items donated by every chapter and several guests. At the closing banquet, the winners of the raffle and the high bidders on the auction items were announced. The Norfolk Southern Lawmen entertained us with their wonderful harmony.

President Barbara Barthle called the Summer Board Meeting to order on Friday, July 14, 2006, at the Chicago Marriott Southwest Burr Ridge, Chicago, IL, with all board members in attendance.

## *DISTRICT II CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 13 – 16, 2006*

Atlanta, GA

Seven chapters were represented at the Crowne Plaza Perimeter Hotel in Atlanta, GA for the District II conference. Atlanta Chapter President Dorothy Chumley and three of her new members were wonderful hostesses for the event.

District Director Elaine Mosley and District Secretary-Treasurer, Barbara Miller conducted the business of the Conference. The chapter Presidents discussed their plans for the year and they offered suggestions on fundraisers. Lou Ann McClendon of the Houston chapter was elected District nominating chairman. The Fort Worth Chapter announced the 2007 conference is to be held October 20 & 21, 2007 in the Downtown Ft. Worth Hilton.

The members sat at different tables for lunch to meet new friends and exchange ideas. The memorial service was held after lunch and then the conference was adjourned. Everyone was free to explore the city and met for dinner at Copelands.

### **NARBW Labels**

Dot Chumley wants to remind everyone that she has NARBW seals for sale. The seals are adhesive backed, gold embossed NARBW logos. The small ones are 5/8" high (20 for \$1) and the large ones are 1 ¼" high (15 for \$1). Contact Dot Chumley at 2963 Woodstream Point #10696, Big Canoe, GA 30143.







*REMEMBER OUR MEMBERS*  
*- Obituaries -*



**Nancy Beard** Nancy was a charter member of the Miami Chapter. Nancy retired from the CSX marketing department. She was a charter member of the Miami chapter and when they turned in their charter, she transferred to the Jacksonville chapter. Nancy served NARBW at the Chapter, District and National Levels and will be remembered for the friendship she offered to everyone.

**Mildred Van Haven** retired from the Union Pacific in Omaha. She lived to be 96 years old and was proud that she still “kept her own house”.

**Ruth Wall Hogan** Ruth worked for the NY Central in the Freight Agent’s office and joined NARBW and their bowling league. A fellow NARBW member introduced her to her Ray Hogan and they married.

**Elena Pollo** a lifetime member of the Chicago chapter has passed away.

**Lena Mae Urban** was an active member of the Richmond chapter for many years. Even before she joined, she attended many functions and supported the chapter. She was a good friend and member.

*- The Best Job in Town can be Yours! -*

Are you looking for a position that will provide you with stimulating opportunities and

- A variety of duties while learning more about your organization;
- Flexible hours, with the opportunity to travel;
- Opportunity to work with fun individuals as a member of a winning team; and
- Excellent career advancement within the organization?

If you answered yes to any part of the above question, then consider this your opportunity to become involved in the service of NARBW! We are looking for a few good women that have leadership skills; enthusiasm for the tasks that lie ahead and a love of our organization that will lead her to achieve full potential by serving on the national board of NARBW. The successful candidates should be motivated, ready to work with a great team and possess a commitment to serve NARBW. For complete details consult your NARBW Bylaws.

The offices that will be elected in 2007 are:

- National 2nd Vice President
- National 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President
- National Secretary
- District II Director
- District II Secretary Treasurer

The National Association of Railway Business Women NEEDS YOU!

For details, contact National Nominating Chairman, Sandy Hall before deadline of February 1, 2007.

## *LEGISLATIVE UPDATES...*

The elections will soon be over and our elected officials will go back to Washington on November 7th. There are a couple of pending bills that deserve our consideration:

**S3742** A bill to amend the IRS code to provide incentive to the expand "railroad infrastructure". This legislation would provide a tax credit for RR investment in new track, Intermodal facilities, locomotives. It will allow railroads to expand more quickly and help alleviate nationwide transportation congestion.

**HR5483** A bill to increase the earnings of a disabled Railroad employee from \$400 a month to \$700 a month with COLA increases. Please urge your elected officials to support this bill and provide disabled Railroad employees the same benefits as those covered by Social Security.

You may contact your elected officials using the NARVRE toll free numbers 1-877-668-3864 or 1-877-668-3866 (see related note on page 2 about supporting NARVRE).

## *BYLAWS UPDATED...*

NARBW owes a big thank you to Theresa Harper, Sandy Hall and Cynthia Chandler and to CSXT. These ladies reviewed the National Bylaws and made sure all the approved revisions were reflected. CSXT printed copies for every member. Copies of the bylaws have been mailed to every Chapter President. They should be available for you at your next Chapter meeting (another good reason to attend).

### **SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

A challenge was issued at the District I Conference to raise \$1000 and award a Nancy Beard Memorial Scholarship. Both Districts held fund raisers at their Conferences towards this scholarship. If you would like to make a contribution, please let your Chapter President know.

### **2009 Convention**

2007 convention will be held May 18 & 19 at Jekyll Island, GA hosted by the Jacksonville Chapter. The Philadelphia Chapter will host the 2008 convention. The 2009 convention is up for bid. One of the joys of NARBW is traveling to other cities. Why not invite everyone to your city in 2009? To volunteer or get more information contact Barbara Barthle, National President.

### **- Plans of Work -**

Question from District I Conference. Why can't all the National Officers Plans of work be mailed in one envelope to the Chapter Presidents? Mailing them to one officer, to collate and remail them would take much more time and end up double the postage expense. Many officers have their railroads cover the printing and mailing expense. When possible we combine mailings.

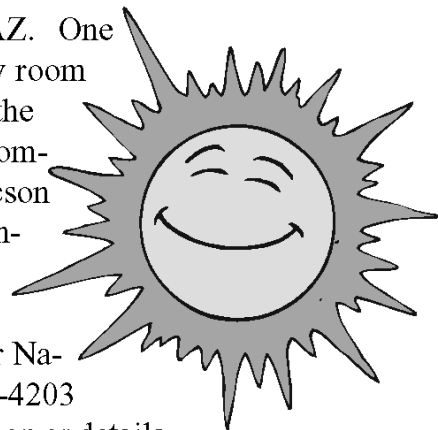
*NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RAILWAY BUSINESS WOMEN*

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***Is this is year you spend the  
Winter in warm, wonderful Arizona?***

Unfurnished unit located in the heart of Green Valley, AZ. One bedroom, enclosed Lanai, covered carport, community room and laundry room. Plus, NARBW ladies from all over the country will surround you. Green Valley is a thriving community – lots of shopping, lots of golf, 23 miles to Tucson International Airport. \$200 a month plus utilities (rent increase in January).



If you are interested, contact your Chapter President or National Residence Chairman, Diane Huntington (636-789-4203 or e-mail: [DCHuntin@UP.com](mailto:DCHuntin@UP.com)) for additional information or details.