

# THE CAPSULE

Volume 16, Issue 9

April, May, June 2014

## MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT



Dear Narbies:

The 70<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Houston was explosive with “Denim and Diamonds”. Thank you to the Houston Chapter for a wonderful convention. Kicking off with the pre-convention tour to the NASA Space Center, a formal opening with the Presentation of Colors by a female Color Guard, a Presidents Brunch for our “Diamonds in the Sky”, the Candidates Reception introducing our “Diamonds in the Rough”, a fun night for the “Rhinstone Cowgirls/Cowboys, a

memorial service reminding us that “Diamonds are Forever”, a Membership Luncheon honoring our “Jewels in Our Crown” and concluding with an elegant formal banquet with the announcement of Scholarship Awards. For those of you who were able to attend, I’m sure you can join me in commending Convention Chairman Tamela Kubicek and her committee members for an outstanding event.

The National Board will be gathering for our Summer Board meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, and will be team building and planning for a productive year. The Plans of Work will be forthcoming by the middle of August when we will begin another year of business for NARBW. Our Treasurer, Julie Lane from Omaha, will be new to the Board and she is looking forward to working with each Chapter. I trust that each of our chapters will be planning for a great year as we strive to reconnect with members who did not renew their membership, maintain a connection with our present members and work to create connections with each new member.

Listed below are the 2014/2015 Board and Committee Chairs.

Laura Gutteridge - 1st VP  
Diane Huntington - 2nd VP  
Amy Schapp - 3rd VP  
Sylvia Long - Secretary  
Julie Lane - Treasurer  
Pat Prillaman - Publication  
Joyce Peak - Convention  
Colleen Brabec - Scholarship  
Tamela Kubicek - Revisions/Jewelry  
Ida Carmouche - Welfare  
Cynthia Chandler - Nominations  
Sandy Hall - Emeritus Council

I am honored to serve as your President and look forward to a successful year. Remember we are a “TEAM,” working together to strengthen this organization that was only a vision by outstanding women in 1921.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sharon L. Wenger".

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## PROPOSED REVISION TO THE NATIONAL BYLAWS

One proposed revision to the Bylaws was submitted by the Philadelphia Chapter in sufficient time for a 2/3 vote approval by the Convention body. The amendment proposed changing Article VIII, Section 1, to read “A convention of this Association shall be held in April or May of each fiscal year.” Reason given was “Conflict with Mother’s Day, Memorial Day, weddings, and graduations may hold down attendance.” A standing vote was called for and the revision failed to pass by a slight margin.

# 2014 CHAPTER WOMEN OF THE YEAR



**Pat Smith**  
**Atlanta Chapter**

Patricia joined the Atlanta Chapter in 1988 and has served as Secretary, Vice President and President. Currently she is the Atlanta Chapter Chaplin. Pat is married to a Baptist Minister; and they have two daughters, five granddaughters and one great granddaughter. She is active in her community and has served as PTA president, ticket sale coordinator for the Atlanta Ballet, Hostess for the Atlanta Symphony Decorator Show House, Sunday School Teacher, Church Youth Director, Coordinator of Women on Mission, Fairburn Baptist Association, Sewing Club and also makes pillow cases for the Children's Hospital.



**Debbye Converse**  
**Houston Chapter**

Debbye began her railroad career with the Missouri Pacific Railroad in 1974. During her career, she has seen many cities and numerous promotions. Her current NARBW Chapter position is Secretary/Membership Chairman, and she served on several committees for the 2014 National Convention. Her

efforts and creativity, when it comes to fundraising ideas, rank second to none. Debbye has worked the following charities by either donating items, money or time and in many cases, all three. On September 10, 2011, Debbye married the love of her life, Mark Converse. Collectively, they have two girls and two boys; six granddaughters, one grandson and one great granddaughter. Debbye is an inspiration to everyone in the Houston Chapter. She is the type of person you want to have on your team, and the Chapter is very fortunate to have her as a member and as a friend. Her hard work, dedication and commitment to follow through on whatever is required is what sets her apart from the rest. The following quote is a description of Debbye:

*"I don't want to live in the kind of world where we don't look out for each other. Not just the people that are close to us, but anybody who needs a helping hand. I can't change the way anybody else thinks, or what they choose to do, but I can do my bit."*



**Margaret Elston**  
**Indianapolis Charter Chapter**

Margaret has served as Ways & Means Chairman, Scholarship Chairman, Corresponding Secretary, Vice President and was Chapter President in 1981 and 1982. Currently, she hosts the annual Silent Auction and raises funds to support the Chapter's Welfare projects. In the past, she has

volunteered for Operation Lifesaver presentations in elementary schools. Her mother, Margaret Wright, was also a member of Charter Chapter and often recruited her daughter to work on various projects many years before she became an active member. Margaret was hired by Penn Central Railroad in 1968, continued with Conrail and finally with CSX Transportation. During her career, she has seen many cities and retired in 2008 with 40 years of service. Margaret has been an invaluable addition to the Indianapolis Charter Chapter and knows its history due to her early involvement.



**Elaine Mosley**  
**Jacksonville Chapter**

Elaine joined the Jacksonville Chapter in 1993. She served NARBW on Chapter, then District levels (District Director being a part of the National Board during that post). She has served as the Jacksonville Chapter President for two terms and has chaired many committees. Elaine has supported the community with her time and financial gifts in the name of NARBW and also personally since moving to Jacksonville. In 2001, her grandson was born with Down Syndrome, the foundation for which gained another strong and steadfast supporter in Elaine. She has participated in the Buddy Walk and got the Chapter involved in this most worthy project. Elaine has supported the

## 2014 CHAPTER WOMEN OF THE YEAR (Cont'd.)

### Elaine Mosley Jacksonville Chapter (Cont'd.)

"Empty Bowls Luncheon" since joining NARBW. The Chapter is also proud of Elaine's tireless efforts in support of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, The Foundation for Fighting Blindness, and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer organization. In recent years, she has been a strong proponent for Alzheimer's Research and volunteers at the North Florida School for Special Education, supporting the latter with monetary gifts. Elaine worked for CSX for 22 years and is a founding member of the Jacksonville Women's Leadership Council, a multi-corporation initiative to promote young women with corporate America. She included NARBW in Diversity Week at CSX to provide greater exposure for our organization. In June of 2012, Elaine was listed as one of the "Top 25 Women in Power Impacting Diversity" by the *Diversity Plus magazine*. She continues to work for equal opportunity in promotions for women by mentoring young women joining the CSX workforce.



**Sue Brazelton  
Kansas City Chapter**

It is no surprise that Sue Brazelton has been chosen Woman of the Year to

represent the Kansas City Chapter 2 years in a row. In the early 70's, during her early career with the KCS Railroad, Sue was a member of an NARBW KC chapter. Times may have been different in the 70's, but the goals of NARBW were the same. Sue and the members were very involved with NARBW and the community. They devoted their time to charity work and hosted the National Convention at KC Crown Center. From day one, Sue has been a wonderful mentor to the current chapter's members. Her previous chapter experience has influenced the professionalism of the meetings along with good-natured camaraderie. She has held an officer position since the new chapter began in 2012 and is currently in her 2<sup>nd</sup> term as chapter treasurer. She donates her time and ideas to increase chapter funds and monitors the proceeds. Sue attends the National NARBW Convention each year and reports National's new business, along with a few lively stories that took place during the trip. She was an employee of the KCS Railroad in various departments and was the purchasing agent when she retired after 39 years. Sue loves to help and educate others. The Chapter is very fortunate to have her on their NARBW team.



**Rae Huebner  
Philadelphia Chapter**

Rae is a very active and dedicated member of the Philadelphia Chapter, where she has been a member for

over 10 years. She has served NARBW on many levels—chapter and district. Rae continues to grow her knowledge of NARBW and offers valuable insight for improvements not only for her chapter but for the organization as a whole. Rae began working for Amtrak in 1974 in the Reservations Department. She will retire in August of this year with over 40 years' service. To acknowledge her performance over the years, Rae was given the Amtrak President's Service and Safety Award in 2007 for Sustained Excellence over a career that, at that time, spanned 33 years. As Vice-President of the Philadelphia Chapter, Rae has dedicated herself to finding new and different ideas for fundraising. The Philadelphia Chapter believes that Rae Huebner is the embodiment of friendship and selflessness that symbolizes NARBW. Rae's inner strength through hardships could be an example to all.



**Sylvia A. Long  
Roanoke Chapter**

Sylvia has been a member of the Roanoke Chapter since April 2008. She currently holds Chapter positions of Membership Chairman and Nominating Chairman. Sylvia also serves as National Secretary. Roanoke Chapter membership has increased tremendously because of her hard work in sharing our mission with women associated with the rail industry. Since she became Membership Chairman in 2013, seven women have joined the



## 2014 CHAPTER WOMEN OF THE YEAR (Cont'd.)

### Sylvia A. Long Roanoke Chapter (Cont'd.)

Chapter. Because of the Chapter's continued growth, its President has requested Sylvia to create a Mentoring program, which will help acclimate new members to NARBW and to other Chapter members. Sylvia has been employed by Norfolk Southern Corporation for 39 years. She started her railroad career with Southern Railway System in Chattanooga, TN, in January 1975. During her career at Norfolk Southern, she worked in various positions in the Freight Claims and Damage Prevention Department (19 years), as Assistant to Manager in the Operating Rules Department (6 years), and as Supervisor, Assistant Manager and, most recently, Manager Purchasing Services and Projects in the Sourcing Department (14 years).



**Diane Huntington  
St. Louis Chapter**

Diane is an outstanding volunteer. She volunteers in the name of

NARBW, as well as other organizations. On the local NARBW level, Diane holds positions of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Public Relations Chairman and Finance Chairman. She is a huge volunteer in her community. Her time is spent with AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Post 48 in DeSoto, Missouri, serving as the local Americanism Chairman. Diane spends many hours annually volunteering with the special needs adults in her community. Annually, Diane volunteers at nine or more Special Olympic Games, three of which involve three-day trips. Prior to retiring in January 2010, she volunteered her services many times to Union Pacific Railroad events. Diane is currently Vice President of Public Relations of the Union Pacific Employee Clubs (UPEC), this being her third year of a four-year term on the UPEC Executive Committee. In 2004, while serving her first term on the Executive Committee, Diane and four other UPRR employees organized the UPEC Friend to Friend Network of which she is a Board Director and currently serves as Secretary. The Network recently hit a milestone by donating over \$4 million to active and retired UPRR employees and their families who were facing devastating residential and physical emergencies. When she is not volunteering, in her spare time, Diane is an avid gardener. It is with pride that the St. Louis Chapter sponsors Diane Huntington as their Woman of the Year.



**Barbara Spaulding-  
Westcott  
Saginaw-Great Lakes  
Chapter**

Barbara's service to NARBW includes office of President and Sunshine Committee Chair. She also promotes the Chapter through involvement in National Train Day, Railfans Weekend, and other train-related events in the area. Her goals include communicating thru calls to members, publishing a newsletter and inviting members to take a train to Chicago for lunch. It has been Barbara's hope to involve the members by asking for their help when possible. Most of the Saginaw Chapter ladies are retired and some take vacations out of the area. Barbara's service to the railroad industry includes Operation Lifesaver presenter; Mid-Michigan Railway Historical Society, Activities Director; and Michigan Association of Rail Passengers member. Barbara's community service includes Downtown Small Business Association Treasurer; Friends of McFarlan Park; Greater Flint Council of Churches; Durand Union Station member; and Promote the Eastern Michigan Food Bank.

## ANNOUNCING OUR NATIONAL 2014 WOMAN OF THE YEAR...

# NARBW NATIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR



## JAY NELSEN OMAHA CHAPTER

Jay was hired by the Southern Pacific RR in July of 1993 in Denver, Colorado, and joined the Denver Chapter the same year. She has belonged to the Denver, St Louis and Omaha chapters and has served at all levels from Chapter Parliamentarian to National President.

Jay has been an Operation Lifesaver presenter for 6 years and has represented NARBW at OL national meetings. Jay has attended the FRA RSAC (Railroad Safety Advisory Committee) meetings for 4 years, serving as the NARBW representative.

Jay finds ways for NARBW to be involved in the community. When the Chapter members serve dinner at RMH, host the holiday parties at Ste-

phens Center, ring bells for the Salvation Army, shelve food at a local food pantry, collect and organize donations from the collection barrels she set up at Union Pacific Center, Jay will be there. She collects items year round for donations (mittens for the mitten tree, toys for the Holiday parties, toiletries for the shelters, etc). She is generous with her donations and with her time to make a difference in the community. Jay initiated semi-annual raffles to raise money.

Jay began her career as a clerk on the Southern Pacific RR. After several promotions and two moves, she is now the Union Pacific Team Leader for the Sunset Service Unit. Her primary responsibility is to promptly respond to service issues for her 400+ customer base in Arizona, New Mexico and the El Paso area of Texas. She takes pride in knowing all of her customers and in improving communication with them.

Jay does love NARBW and enjoys the rewards of friendship and sisterhood that come from being an NARBW member.



# 2014 NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



## Lindsay Megan Wright

Nominated by the Jacksonville Chapter and her grandmother, Anna Mae Wright. Lindsay won a scholarship last year from NARBW. She is going to the University of Florida to study architecture. This YMCA Life Guard and Swim Instructor has over 240 hours of community service since 2006. Her reference letter stated "She always portrays a positive role model for others and is not timid to take on leadership roles." Her grandmother wrote "She already demonstrates an entrepreneurial spirit, strong leadership qualities, superior commitment to community service and business sense."

formed professionally with Working America, Joyce Theatre Benefit Concert in New York, Creative Alliance in Baltimore and Moscow and Pittsburgh Ballet Nutcracker. She has won numerous awards including Top Soloist at the World Dance Pageant in Orlando. She has also served as Class President and Executive Board Sergeant at Arms. She is regarded by her Journalism teacher as "the student who is not only gifted academically, but who also exemplifies what a remarkable young person should be outside the classroom."



## Katie-Lynn Fisher-Nilson

Nominated by the Saginaw-Great Lakes Chapter and her Aunt, Doris Hermes. Katie won a scholarship last year from NARBW. She is studying to be a Physician Assistant at Michigan State University. She is an active member of MSU's Nursing Students Association, a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority and is on the Dean's list. She says "I love being involved in the community, giving back and forming bonds. I actually enjoy school". Her recommendation letter said "I know this charismatic young woman will do anything she puts her mind to."



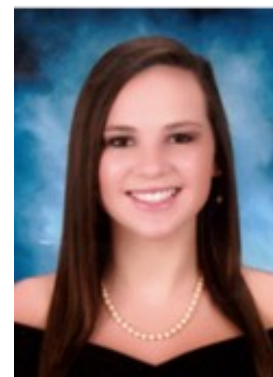
## Krista Rogers

Nominated by the Jacksonville Chapter and her mother, Mia Rogers. She is attending Southeastern University in Florida and is studying Organizational Leadership and Business Management. She is President of the National Honor Society, Student Council, and in Key Club. She represented the State of Florida at the U.S. Academic Decathlon Competition and was Valedictorian in both Middle School and High School. She volunteers for after-school tutoring, Seamark Ranch for foster children, local nursing homes and the Tim Tebow Foundation which has led to the accumulation of over 350 community service project hours this past year.



## Cassidy Miller

Nominated by the Jacksonville Chapter and her aunt, Barbara Miller. She will be attending ELON University and majoring in Dance and Arts and Entertainment Management. She has per-



## Ashley Ohorodnik

Nominated by Jacksonville Chapter and her Grandmother, Mary Warner. This is Ashley's second NARBW



## 2014 NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS (Cont'd.)

### Ashley Ohorodnik (Cont'd.)

scholarship. She is attending Florida State University and majoring in Nursing. She is a member of Jacksonville's NARBW Chapter. Ashley volunteers at the Tallahassee Humane Society, joined the National Student Nurses Association this past year and volunteers as a nursery attendant and in the preschool ministry at her church. Her grandmother, Mary Warner, says in her letter "Ashley will be a wonderful nurse because she is such a caring person."



### Joshua Prokupek

Nominated by the Omaha Chapter and his mother, Connie Prokupek, Omaha Chapter President. Joshua is planning to attend Central College in Pella, IA, to study Business Administration and Management. He has lettered in varsity soccer for 4 years and varsity tennis for 3 years. He writes "I truly enjoy the stress that comes with management. I love devising lists and assigning jobs." He was part of the Leadership Academy at his high school, member of the Forensics team all four years, High Ability Learners Program and Honor Roll all four years. His AP World History Teacher says "Josh is the type of student that teachers love to teach."



### Jace Prokupek

Nominated by the Omaha Chapter and his mother, Connie Prokupek, Omaha Chapter President. This is Jace's 3<sup>rd</sup> NARBW scholarship. He attends Regis University and is studying Business Marketing and Communication, with a minor in Politics. He is in the honor's program and is nominated for Vice President of the Student Body at Regis University. He has been accepted into Regis University's Leadership Program and works as a peer mentor to students considering studying abroad, as Jace did in Scotland last year. He is hoping to volunteer in Peru with his school over the summer, between undergrad and graduate school. He spearheaded a successful fundraiser for cancer research that generated over \$11,000, and organized a community clean-up day.



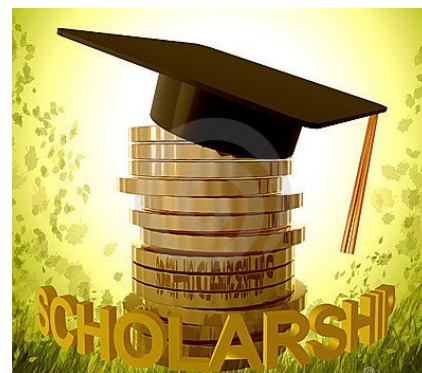
### Leah Beth Wright

Nominated by Jacksonville Chapter and her grandmother Anna Mae Wright. Leah won a scholarship last year from NARBW. She is attending Florida State University and studying Biology with a minor in business. She is a City of Fernandina Beach life-guard, Ambassador Girl Scout and

volunteer at Smile Camp, a camp for children with disabilities. Her reference letter states "Leah embodies the values of achievement, leadership and above all community service". She earned her Girl Scout Gold Award by creating a Geocaching Program for the Fernandina Beach Greenway, collecting over 180 volunteer hours alone for this one project.



**Logan Stemmer** - Nominated by the Louisville Chapter and his Grandmother, Past National President Doris Stemmer. Logan is attending Northern Kentucky University and studying Nursing. He is a little league baseball umpire and volunteer at the Campbell County Animal Shelter. He works at Longhorn in order to make ends meet in college. His manager wrote "I know Logan will be successful in the field of nursing due to his caring nature, intelligent demeanor and his ability to be cheerful in the worst of situations and his ability to bring out the best in others."



*Congratulations!*

## 2014 NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS (Cont'd.)



### Jeneal Hunt

Nominated by the Indianapolis Charter Chapter and her cousin, Connie Hunt. This will be Jeneal's 3<sup>rd</sup> NARBW scholarship. She is attending Valparaiso University and studying Chemistry with a biology minor. She is a member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority and is scholarship chair, Alpha Lambda Delta secretary (Honors Society) and works as an Ambassador in Admissions. She will be studying abroad this fall semester in Costa Rica doing an internship in clinical healthcare. She says "Eventually someday, I would like to work in medical missions or as a primary care physician". She helped organize a dance marathon that raised \$24,000 for the Children's Hospital in Chicago. In March, she traveled by train to Washington D.C. to serve the homeless and perform other community service projects through the Youth Service Opportunities Project.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### ALBANY CHAPTER

Bonnie Crowley, Marianna Maffeo and Susan Russo attended the Houston Convention and then traveled to San Antonio for some added pleasure. The Chapter continues to meet at member homes where the hostess prepares the meal and members pay \$10 each to the Chapter treasury, their main fundraiser. They also continue to place a locomotive bank in the center of the table for members' loose change. They sometimes brown bag it to these meetings or bring a covered dish for pot luck. They do not meet in July or August. An Amtrak train trip from Albany to Montreal, along Lake Champlain, is planned for September, with two nights aboard the Queen Elizabeth included. (Wow, sounds wonderful!) All members of Albany Chapter are retired...but busy. At their October meeting, they will hold an auction of items brought by members and put up for bid, another fun fundraising event. Their November meeting will include a bake sale where members will bring their baked goods for purchase by other members, yet another fundraising event. Members bring canned goods to each meeting, all of which are then donated to a local food pantry for families in need. Welfare Chairman Diana Ham is in charge of this project. Plans are underway for their annual Christmas party which will be held at Salty's in Clifton

Park, NY. Congratulations are in order for the Chapter as it will be celebrating its 60th Anniversary in March 2015. Members are sad to report that Marilyn House passed away on May 30, two days before her 90th birthday. Marilyn was a long-time, dedicated member and Past President of Albany Chapter. She was also Past District Director of both District 1 and District 2. This photo was taken of Marilyn when she attended Convention in Minneapolis. She most definitely will be missed.



### HOUSTON CHAPTER

The Chapter hopes everyone enjoyed the Convention and added that members who worked on its preparation had a blast.



*Houston Chapter Ladies at Fun Night*

### ATLANTA CHAPTER

The Chapter will not meet this summer, but has plans for a social event of bowling on July 12. They are also hard at work on the 2016 Convention.

### CHICAGO CHAPTER

President Marie Gallagher reports that members recently met, but with poor attendance. She says they are not giving up though. Member growth is hoped for the future of this Chapter.

The Chapter sends out a big **THANK YOU** to Tamela for all of her hard work toward making it such a success.



*Hospitality Room—Meeting with Friends from Other Chapters*



# CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

## HOUSTON CHAPTER (Cont'd.)



Pictured above is the National Board with Convention speaker, Houston Mayor Annise Parker, at the podium. At right, the Mayor is presented a gift by National President Cynthia Chandler. Below is National Welfare Chairman and our 2012 WOY Ida Carmouche who was interviewed about the event and her views reported in the "F.O.C.U.S Express" June 2014 issue. When asked how it felt to have Mayor Parker address the NARBW this year, Ida replied "It was an awesome feeling having the mayor of the fourth-largest city in the United States take the time to attend our railway convention."



Members met in April with a brunch at the White Flamingo, hosted by Deborah Regan. Soda can pull tabs were donated to Ronald McDonald House with delivery by Debbye Converse. Debbye and Ginger Stanbery also took "Convention Cookies" that Debbye made to the PTRa to thank employees for collecting tabs. Membership brochures were also set out with the cookies. Also delivered that day, to Tamela Kubicek for her birthday, was a basket of Doubletree Hotel Chocolate Chip Cookies made by Ginger. Some members, including Mama Grace Nowlin, met with Tamela, Convention Chairman, back in May to help stuff convention bags and add name tags to I.D. badge holders. Afterwards, they met at Ninfa's Mexican Food Restaurant for a late lunch and Margaritas. Lou Ann McClendon reminds us that Convention photos can be accessed at

www.Shutterfly.com. You must sign in with [gammie48@yahoo.com](mailto:gammie48@yahoo.com) and use the password NARBW. Once in, click on "My Pictures" then under "My Albums (10)", go to "NARBW 2014 Houston Convention." The Chapter's May meeting was at the home of Linda Kovac, who prepared a wonderful lunch and held a presentation on essential oils and their benefits. Chapter members will be volunteering at the M.D. Anderson Children's Art Project every Wednesday for six months. The Chapter is presently selling organically grown Vidalia Onions, proceeds to benefit Ronald McDonald House. Members are asked to set a box/bag aside at home to collect items for the House's "Wish List". The Chapter recently met for lunch and a tour of Saint Arnold's Brewery in Houston, the oldest craft brewery in the City. Members plan to attend the "Vickie Lawrence & Mama: A Two Woman Show" on August 10 at the Grand Opera House in Galveston with lunch prior at Little Daddy's Gumbo Bar. Their June 21 installation meeting was hosted by Virginia Rodriguez at the White Flamingo. Virginia was installed as 1st VP, and a warm welcome was given to new member Martha Haun, who was the Parliamentarian at the Houston Convention and who joined at that time. Martha is a Parliamentarian Educator at the University of Houston and is the daughter and granddaughter of railroaders. She had the first of a two-part surgery on June 26 and is doing well. Congratulations to Tamela and Kevin Kubicek on the birth of their first grandchild, a baby girl named Charlotte, born April 19. Parents Brandon and Amber and the baby are all doing fine. Also, congratulations to Deborah and Ray Regan who became grandparents for the third time with the birth of a baby girl named Autumn Lea Mullican on May 8. Parents David and Michele welcomed Autumn home to big sisters Hailey and Madison. In a report dated June 3, Mama Grace Nowlin's daughter Lynette had to return from her honeymoon to Houston where she was hospitalized with lung and breathing problems. We certainly hope she is doing better now. Associate member

Gerry Rodgers (formerly of the Tucson Chapter) is recovering from jaw surgery. Mary Jane Spencer is recovering from shoulder surgery. Don Chandler was unable to attend his wife Cynthia's last Convention as National President this year due to a blood clot in his leg. Carolyn Cook's mother, Helen (89) is in physical therapy following a heart attack. We are sorry to report that Members Linda Kovac and Gracie Dowdy lost their Uncle Grady Capps on April 28. On another sad note, members report that their friend and long-time member, Ida Carmouche, lost her Mother, Jessie Mae Franklin, on May 19. Several members attended the funeral and prepared dessert for the lunch that followed. Our most heartfelt sympathy is extended to all who have lost loved ones.

## INDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER

The Chapter celebrated "Women in Transportation Day" with a proclamation from Governor Pence. This was a joint meeting with members from the Circle City Chapter. At their June meeting, members were recognized and honored for the Chapter's accomplishments throughout the past year. Each member brought in their pop tabs for the "Tab Drop Off on the Circle" sponsored by Ronald McDonald House of Indiana. A bus trip to a casino is being planned for their annual August fundraiser. Josh Borders, son of Roger and Beth Borders and grandson of Ruth Moore graduated summa cum laude on May 11 from IU School of Education with a B.S. in Education, specializing in Special Education. The Chapter is sad to report the loss of a very dear member. LaVerne Mercurio, who passed away in FL recently. While living in Indiana, LaVerne was an active member and attended meetings faithfully. Following the death of her husband, LaVerne cared for her blind father-in-law for several years, bringing him with her to Chapter meetings. Without much coaxing, Mr. Mercurio would always sing "Back Home Again in Indiana" for the members listening pleasure. He lived to be over 100

# CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

## INDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER CHAPTER (Cont'd.)

before passing. LaVerne was a very caring person and will be missed.

## JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER

Scholarship Chair Angel Shiver is happy to announce that, out of the 10 scholarships that National offered this year, Jacksonville Chapter was awarded 5. These young people are featured earlier in this newsletter. The Chapter is still seeking a chair for its Ways and Means. If not interested in heading up this committee, perhaps you'd be interested in serving on one. If so, let that chair know. Debbie Charpiat is handling the RADA cutlery, with a new catalog coming out in August. Laura Gutteridge and Sandy Hall are co-chairs for the nut sales. The Chapter received \$79.24 from the sale of Pampered Chef items to members. Lisa Pleasants and other members participated in the Vision Walk on April 26 at the University of North Florida. A survey will be sent out to Chapter members on ideas brought out at their April brainstorming meeting. Congratulations to Laura Gutteridge on her election to National 1st VP. (Shown here on left with Chapter President Elaine Mosley.



Hats off to Member Lora Dorman who won the Kindle Fire raffle at Convention. (Shown here as she receives the Kindle from President Mosley.)



Debbie Charpiat advises that the Lands End shirts for sale are available in plus sizes for an additional \$5. She also informs members that, in addition to cutlery, RADA sells cookbooks, candles and quick mixes for dip. Order at <http://www.helpourfundraiser.com> with internet order number 504453 and password 1593. Membership Chair Laura Gutteridge advises that their fun

event was on June 6 at the Alhambra for the play "Social Security."



A great time was had by all and some even got to meet *Barbara Eden* (attractive as ever) after the show (Below 2nd from left).



Their June 26 meeting was at CSX HQ with dinner provided by A1 Catering. The Chapter is planning a Meet and Greet recruiting event for August. While working on a membership flyer, Welfare Chairman Mary Warner reports that a very successful Clothes Closet was held at PACE Center for

Girls on May 21 and 22, with 19 graduating on May 23. Mary (on right) and Lillian Braden were spotlighted in the Jax newsletter for their work with PACE. Mary and Lillian



both explained that their devotion to the Closet centered on the PACE girls having the same experiences their own daughter, granddaughter and great granddaughter had. Lora Dorman and Debbie Charpiat advise that the MS Society 150 Ride will be held on September 20 and 21. Christmas brunch will be held at Hidden Hills Country Club on December 13. Laura

Gutteridge was able to confirm the colors to use in RGB coloring to get NARBW blue and yellow. As info, they are:

Blue: Red..... 0  
Green..... 51  
Blue.....127

Yellow: Red.....255  
Green.....216  
Blue.....127

The Chapter is sad to report that Virginia Wolfe passed away on May 15. She worked for many years at CSX as a Secretary and, in her 30+ year career with NARBW, held numerous positions, including Chapter President. Virginia and husband Roland were often at NARBW Conventions until their health prevented travel. The Chapter has lost a very devoted member. At their Chapter meeting, Sandy Hall moved to add individual contributions to money already budgeted for the National Scholarship Fund to honor Virginia Wolfe at Convention. Mary Warner seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Sandy won the 50/50 raffle at their May meeting and donated her amount to the Virginia Wolfe Scholarship Fund.



## KANSAS CITY CHAPTER

The Chapter supports Sheffield Place, which serves homeless mothers with children ages 0-12 or women who are in their third trimester of pregnancy. The ladies must also have a reunification plan and be free from alcohol and drugs. This photo shows some of the items the Chapter has donated this quarter. Their April meeting was held on the 26th from 12-4 p.m. at the Avignon Clubhouse in conjunction with a scheduled bingo party. Members





# CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

## KANSAS CITY CHAPTER

(Cont'd.)

enjoyed a dinner outing and meeting at the Bucca de Beppo in Kansas City Plaza. Their June meeting involved a hearty breakfast to discuss upcoming volunteer events and a membership drive. Afterwards, officer installation was held and pictures taken.



Enjoying breakfast (munching away) are L-R: Isabel Melder, Gloria Marshall and Chrystal Tonkin.

## LOUISVILLE CHAPTER

The Chapter's May and June meetings were each held at Bucks Restaurant. Members are requested to donate \$25 to the Welfare Fund, as the Christmas in July Auction will now be their only annual fundraiser. The Chapter sends congratulations to Doris Stemmer's grandson who was awarded a National Scholarship at Convention. This young man is featured earlier in the newsletter. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mary Virginia McBride who lost her husband Tom on March 31.

## OMAHA CHAPTER

The Chapter's April meeting was held at the Market Basket in the Country Side Village Shopping Center. On April 10, members had a table on the bridge at UP Center to recruit new members and collect purses for donation. The purse drive netted about 65 purses that were filled and donated to Phoenix House, along with the Chapter's check for \$1,520. Pictured is Chapter President Prokupek, assisting with delivery.



On April 19, Members held an Easter Egg Hunt with games for the Stephens Center. Pictured is National President Cynthia Chandler (red shirt) speaking with little girls (future Narbies?), and the next photo shows some of the children who participated in a sack race. How cute!



National President Chandler presented Jay Nelsen with a gift from the Chapter for being selected as its Woman of the Year. Congratulations to Member Candace Starks who has accepted a management trainee position with UP in Louisiana and to Members Rebecca Meyer and Casey Zahner who have been promoted to Managers of Data Integrity in the National Customer Service Center. Members met on May 1 for a dinner meeting at Le Bouillon in the heart of the Old Market. Welcome is extended to new members Constance Alvis, Isabel Elquezabal, Libbie Hasselquist, Kerry Horsley, Marla Horsley, Rebecca Meyer, Susan Hess and Anne Menichetti. On June 4, members met at Corky Canvas to paint a picture while consuming a beverage of their choice. Pictured below are members ready to begin painting and then, below that,



L-R — Sally Sofio and Cynthia Chandler are hard at work (really concentrating).



Members were asked to bring their box tops and Campbell's soup labels they'd been collecting to the June

meeting. The Chapter sponsored a dinner for their past Presidents on June 5 at Brother Sebastians in Omaha. Absent from the following photos is Dianne Koppleman who was unable to attend.



L-R—Past Chapter Presidents Kay Leslie, Cynthia Chandler and JoAnn Flood



L-R—Past Chapter Presidents Amy Schapp, Colleen Brabec, Connie Prokupek and Marge Carson

Members are asked to "save the date" Sunday, July 20, for a family picnic and melodrama play at Mahoney State Park. On Friday, August 15, the Chapter will sponsor its biggest money-maker of the year—a golf tournament at Shoreline Golf Course. Kay Leslie is asking members to donate items for door prizes, especially golf-related. President Connie Prokupek is looking for members interested in joining a committee or willing to head up the Public Affairs Committee, as their current Chair is moving to Arkansas.

## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

At Easter, members sold Bergin's candy again and made a tidy little profit to line their coffers. They also had a Fuller Brush book party, and their

# CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER (Cont'd.)

generous representative gave them a percentage of sales plus 2 items to raffle off and keep the proceeds. In May, members volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House plane pull again, which was held at Philly International Airport. This is always a fun event with more participation from members each year. President Joan Waite was the only member to represent her Chapter at Convention in May. She was alone most of the time while selling in the Market Place because other members kept leading her husband off to help them with "nose to toes" 50/50 raffles. Walt is 6'2" which gives them a lot more tickets and a better chance to win! Members were disappointed that their proposed revision to the Bylaws did not pass. The old saying "3 times, the charm", just didn't work. It came closer to passing this time and the Chapter hopes that maybe sometime in the future it will pass. The Chapter's June meeting was held at President Waite's new house in Delaware. Members will be cooking and serving breakfast to the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House in July and again in August. Also in July, a group of the ladies will be attending a Phillies' game, again sponsored by Ronald McDonald House. Members will be returning to Long Beach Island in New Jersey this September to once again gather under one roof for a weekend of camaraderie and fellowship. They value these times together and hate they missed having it last year. Harry Rodan, Monica's husband, is doing better, but prayers are asked for him, along with Renee Noble's husband as he is still experiencing some issues.

## PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Their June meeting was held at the Meadows Casino in Pittsburgh, with a buffet lunch in its Carvery Restaurant. One of their members, Audrey Santel, who doesn't get to participate often, also attended the meeting. In addition, Audrey brought her sister, Margie, who worked for a railroad but is not a

Narbie. Audrey's brother from New York also came, and members thought "he was delightful." Their July meeting will be at a restaurant owned by Audrey's niece in Delmont, PA, which is about 100 miles from Chapter President Betty Halligan's home, so Betty and hubby will most likely not be able to attend.

## ROANOKE CHAPTER

President Kathy Barbour reminded members to bring "slightly used" pieces of "bling," i.e., jewelry, scarves, hats, etc. for a gift exchange at the April 5 meeting, adding that "One woman's trash is another woman's treasure!" The meeting was held at Gilians Galley in Rocky Mount, which President Barbour reminded everyone, has a Rose's store (not too many left). Their April board meeting was held at Ronald McDonald House where members held a dessert shower of home-baked and bought goodies for families staying there. A Chapter donation of \$50 was also given to the R.M. House. Joyce Higgs, Ways & Means Chairman, reported a profit of \$3,000± on members' sale of nuts last fall. Although members attending Convention were not able to participate in the Roanoke Relay for Life Cancer Walk which began the evening of May 16, those who did attend were:

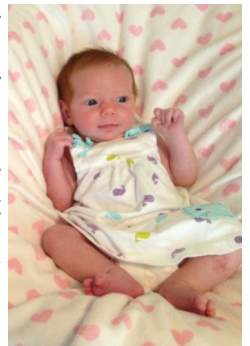


*L.-R.—Jerry Linkous, Craig Huffman, Amy Sheetz, Kristi Blair, Sherry Chambers, David & Carol Meador and Alicia Russcitto*

Narbies two teams' had total donations of \$4,000.25 and Narbie Team No. 1 placed 22nd out of 81 teams for contributions. Congratulations! The Chapter's May meeting was at Lo-

gan's Roadhouse. June's Welfare project was the League of Older Americans luncheon "Let's Do Lunch" to benefit "Meals on Wheels". Each ticket purchased would provide 3 days of Meals on Wheels for a homebound senior. The Chapter is very proud that 17 members participated in this project. Another June Project was to purchase school supplies for the Baptist Community Center. Joanne Perry, the Co-Chair for this project, delivered a trunk load of school supplies and a check covering Chapter and member donations totaling \$250.00. The President's Summer Outing this year will be travel by motorcoach to Wytheville, VA, to attend the Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner theatre on August 16 for the matinee production of "Then Sings My Soul." The Chapter has been highlighting different committees and their members in each issue of their newsletter and has also posted a "help wanted" ad in June's for a Telephone Committee Caller.

Meet Eliza Wray Smith, baby girl born to member Brandi Smith and hubby Willy on May 5. Eliza may be NARBW's next youngest member, as her older sister, Vicki has held that position since birth.



National Secretary Sylvia Long, after 39 years with the railroad, retired April 1 from the NS Sourcing Department. A retirement party was held for her with co-workers, family and friends. Pictured below are Supervisors Ben Chapman and Tracie Baetz presenting Sylvia with a retirement gift.





# CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

## ROANOKE CHAPTER (Cont'd.)

Frances Lowe suffered a break in a bone in her right arm as the result of a fall and is receiving therapy. Elaine Parks is on medication for diverticulitis. Joyce Mills had surgery for a torn retina in her right eye and her husband, Harold, had cataract surgery. Shirley Fletcher had both cataract and toe surgery, but was able to make the June meeting. Condolences to Sandy Williams whose ex-husband, Joe, passed away on April 6. Although divorced, they were good friends and enjoyed their time spent together and with their daughter and her family. Sincere sympathy to Pat Mengerink on the recent passing of her father, Ulysses Lilly.

## SAGINAW-GREAT LAKES CHAPTER

Saginaw-Great Lakes ladies are enjoying the summer with vacations, time with families and a break from the "interesting weather" they have had this year. Their next event is the "Railfans Weekend at Crossroads Village and Hucklebrry Railroad on August 2 and 3 at Flint. There will be a photo run, shop tour and lots of train groups gathered. There are color sheets to pass out for the children. Crayons will also be furnished to children riding Amtrak, with Operation Lifesaver color books for Port Huron, Flint and Ann Arbor Stations. Member Fran Minnich-Dye was hospitalized recently, but is home now; and it is hoped her health will continue to improve.

## TWIN CITIES CHAPTER

Chapter President Loreli Miller advises that Minnesota had a very bad winter, but members were able to meet in March, where goals were set and St. Patrick's Day was celebrated. Officers were elected by "white ballot" this year, as Loreli Miller will continue as President, Carole Dahlquist will continue as Treasurer, and Donna Clark stepped up to take the position of Vice President when no one else would run. Mary Ann Ronkainen and Norma Perna made plans for the Chapter's installation lunch and a social event. Donna Clark is also planning a late summer or fall day trip to the Northwest Fur Trading Post and has mentioned the possibility of a visit to the Hinckley Fire Museum as an outing. The Chapter sent two delegates to Convention—Patty Helling and Joyce Gutz. Members are asked to "step up to the plate" and help with committees. The most pressing need is with chairing the Ways and Means Committee. Their Christmas Party will be held at the Lake Elmo Inn, hosted by Karen Brennan, Melissa Molitor and Carole Dahlquist. Members are reminded to bring paperback books, pop can tabs, box top labels and toilettries to all meetings, as these are then sent to our servicemen and women overseas. Twin Cities once again became part of the Amtrak system in early 2014 with Union Depot its station. Members were encouraged to begin planning the one-of-a-kind journey that only rail travel provides. Activities were planned at the depot for National Train Day on May 10. Sue Clancy had hip replacement surgery and is

on the road to recovery. Rose Loesch, a retiree from the BNSF, passed away in Wichita, KS, and Charlie Wilder, retired BNRR Director of Accounting, also passed away. Jean Charpentier's new address is: Sterling House, 305 W. Thompson, Apt. 14, West Paul, MN 55118. Her phone number is 651.592.0903. Jean is no longer driving, but hopes you'll call or visit, if in the area.

## TWIN PORTS CHAPTER

The Chapter celebrated its 38th anniversary in May at the "Riverside" at Spirit Mountain in Duluth, MN, hosted by Claire Downs and Marie Jordahl, who also furnished a delicious cake for dessert. Money and items donated by members for Harbor House, a women's shelter in Superior, were delivered by Pat Piggott. The Chapter is in the process of purchasing a plaque with its name on it from the Proctor historical Society. Claire Downs will bring a sample to the next meeting. The Chapter had no new candidates for office, so current officers agreed to remain in their positions for another year. Pat Piggott agreed to take over the sale of See's Candy with Aine Merrill's help in training. Chapter President Pat Cohen, who is on the Emeritus Council, attended Convention in Houston and prepared a synopsis of same for members. Barb Johnson and Sue Peer hosted the June meeting at Black Woods Bar and Grill in Proctor, MN, where a drawing for free membership was held for members who had paid their dues. The winner was Claire Downs.

## A QUOTE FROM ERMA BOMBECK REGARDING THE 4TH OF July

"You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism."



# 2014 CONVENTION RESUME

## RESUME OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

May 16-17, 2014

The 70<sup>th</sup> NARBW Convention was opened on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Doubletree by Hilton in Downtown Houston, Texas by President, Cynthia Chandler. Welcomes were received by City of Houston Honorable Mayor, Annise Parker; Doubletree manager, Angie Santamaria; and Ginger Stanbery, Houston President.

Theresa Harper presented the ten outstanding Chapter Women of the Year.

Diane Huntington introduced the Chapter and Past National Presidents at the Presidents' Brunch. Theresa Harper announced Jay Nelsen of the Omaha chapter as the National Woman of the Year. Ida Carmouche announced the fifteen chapters who donated \$300 or 300 hours to welfare/charity projects and the twenty-one Good Samaritans who volunteered 300 or more hours towards welfare projects in their communities.

The business meeting began with a quorum of 53 and was represented by 14 of our 19 chapters and one member-at-large. President Chandler announced that the Richmond Chapter turned in their charter and welcomed our newest chapter. Cincinnati was installed on January 31, 2014 with nineteen charter members.

The budget for 2014-2015 was approved with one amendment. Joyce Peak presented one revision, wanting to change the convention date, which was defeated.

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> began with a beautiful tribute to our deceased members at the Memorial Service conducted by Amy Schapp. At the Membership Luncheon, many positive thoughts and ideas were shared to help NARBW's future growth.

The newly elected officers for 2014-2016 were installed by Past National President, Grace Nowlin and are:

National President	Theresa Harper, Houston
National First Vice President	Laura Gutteridge, Jacksonville
National Treasurer	Julie Lane, Omaha

Kelly McCann, Chief Program Officer for the Alzheimer Association of Houston gave a very informative and interesting presentation on this disease.

The 2015 convention will be held in Savannah, Georgia and hosted by the Atlanta Chapter.

During the annual Banquet, Colleen Brabec announced the ten Scholarship winners.

Submitted by:

Diane Huntington, National Second Vice President



# 2014 CONVENTION PHOTOS



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RAILWAY BUSINESS WOMEN

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