

IN NSO CONTACT



Newsletter of the National Staff Organization

September 2005

NSO Members Directly Affected...

NSO Establishes Special Disaster Relief Fund for Members



I am announcing that NSO will establish a "NSO Disaster Relief Fund," for NSO affiliates and members to contribute through our union. Funds specifically collected will be designated for our members who have

been impacted by Hurricane Katrina. I know at least one NSO member who has lost his home, and I am certain we have other members who have experienced some type of damage to their property, and possibly injury. This fund will accept all donations, no matter how large or small.

What has occurred in the Gulf States is unprecedented!

Various government agencies appear to be incredibly ineffective in addressing this national tragedy. I feel that we, as NSO, can do our part to help assist our own members who have been adversely impacted by this devastating storm and flooding.

Contributions can be sent directly to **Vera Stafford**, NSO's Financial Advisor. Her

address is **49730 8th Avenue, Grand Junction, MI 49056**. Her e-mail address is: verjer@btc-bci.com. Funds will be deposited into a special account. We will determine how many members are impacted and we will provide whatever financial assistance we can.

I am asking that we each do our part to communicate to our NSO affiliates that NSO is setting this Fund and that we will accept all contributions. Checks should be made payable to the "NSO Disaster Relief Fund." I am confident



NEA/NSO Retirement Plan Training Set for Oct. 7, 2005

Planning for the 2005 NEA/NSO Retirement Plan Training Program has been completed and is scheduled for October 7, 2005, in Washington, D.C. according to NSO representative Pat Chavez (NM). This is a valuable opportunity for NSO representatives in states covered by the NEA Pension Plan. NSO affiliates that are not

part of the NEA Pension Plan are welcome to attend, but space is limited. The program agenda includes a presentation by Jim Groves, Senior Projects and Benefits Specialist with the Plan titled, "Retirement Plan Overview-Social Security Leveling Option." Plan Actuary Claire Wolkoff will cover "Plan Valuation & Experience Study." During the afternoon, presentations will be made on "Plan Investment Strategy, Structure and Approach," and a panel discussion about pension legislation. A copy of the official invitation in Adobe PDF format is posted on the NSO Web page (www.nationalstaff.org). The invitation includes details about expenses and a form for those who wish to attend the program. For more information, you can contact Pat Chavez at his e-mail address: cpatrick38@qwest.net. Arrangements have been made for a discount rate of \$159 at the HomeWood Suites which is around the corner from the NEA Headquarters building. The information is: HomeWood Suites, 1475 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Tel: 202-265-8000 Fax: 202-265-5811. Website: www.washingtondc.homewoodsuites.com.

2005-2006 NSO Calendar

Be sure to check the NSO Web page for continuous update on the NSO Calendar.

NSO Executive Committee
September 29 - October 1, 2005
Scottsdale, AZ

Western States Coordinated Bargaining Council
October 14-15, 2005
Billings, MT

Central States Coordinated Bargaining Council
October 14-15, 2005
Minneapolis, MN

Corridor and Southern States Coordinated Bargaining Council,
October 14-15, 2005
Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

NSO Executive Committee
January 10-12, 2006
Sarasota Hyatt, Sarasota, FL

NSO Winter Advocacy Retreat,
January 13-14, 2006
Sarasota Hyatt, Sarasota, FL

NSO Executive Committee
March 30-31, 2006, TBD

**NSO National Bargaining Conference/
Pension Training**
April 21-22, 2006, TBD

NSO Executive Committee
June 6-7, 2006, Fairmont Hotel
New Orleans, LA

NSO Representative Assembly
June 9-10, 2006, Fairmont Hotel,
New Orleans, LA (*We will update members if
a site change is needed.*)

that many of our members are outraged by the conditions in the region impacted by Katrina. This is an opportunity for all of us to do our part to **help** our members who are in dire straits. Let's show others how much the NSO cares, and let's show others that we're here to support our members in their time of crisis.

Chuck Agerstrand, President

Note: The NSO Web Page (www.nationalstaff.org) will provide updates about relief efforts for NSO members as we receive them. NSO encourages all of its members to contribute to the national effort for all victims of Hurricane Katrina as well as NSO members. Media has listed national established and credible relief agencies to which donations can be made.

NSO Rep. Assembly Still Set for New Orleans

We still hope to have the NSO Representative Assembly in New Orleans in June, 2006, but the extent of the damage and on-going relief efforts may require us to relocate to another site. We will keep you posted about those arrangements. Check the NSO Web Page for updates.

**Be Sure to Check
the NSO Web page for a complete report on
the 2005 NSO Representative Assembly
www.nationalstaff.org**

NSO Contact is edited by Bob Mullins.



Comments and suggestions are welcome, and should be sent to Mullins at:
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NSO Web Page

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