

# REPORTS



June 2015

## President's Message—By William C. “Bill” Stanley



Greetings!

I certainly hope you have had a good and productive year thus far. It's hard to believe nine months have passed since we left Savannah, Ga. As you know, our President Steve Gallagher resigned to accept a position with USDA-FSA. We wish him the very best. Katie Sunderland, a current ARRC employee, has been promoted

as manager and will join us at the NARRC Annual Meeting in Sheridan. Please join me in giving Katie a warm welcome.

Thank you, Cindy Garretson-Weibel, for the hard work, time, and effort you have put forth in hosting our 44th annual meeting. You have done a great job in planning a very informative and exciting meeting. The registration forms and packet have been sent to the states providing details on the many sites you may want to visit. We know you will be prompt in returning your registration forms to Cindy to ensure timely planning for this stimulating and educational meeting.

Mike Hinton, USDA-FSA, has announced his retirement. His replacement, Russ Clanton, and Mike will both be with us in Sheridan. Russ is a very close personal friend of NARRC Board Member Harold Gary (MS).

Along with expressing my personal appreciation to the Board for their hard work, I also want to express my sincere appreciation to Vernon and Jeannie Eagan for the tremendous amount of time and effort they have given this organization. Thank you!

It is our hope you will join us in Sheridan, and I look forward to seeing you there.

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### **WELCOME TO WYOMING —THE COWBOY STATE!**

*From Cindy Garretson-Weibel & Wyoming Business Council*

NARRC Colleagues — We extend an invitation for you to join us in the Cowboy State, **September 19-23**, for the 44th Annual NARRC Conference in beautiful Sheridan, Wyoming—known

as King of the Cowboy Towns and was honored as America's top western town in 2011. We promise you a great conference and lots of good, old-fashioned hospitality—the *Cowboy Way!*

With a population of 17,828 people, Sheridan is the sixth largest town in Wyoming but still has a small town atmosphere! During the conference, you will have an opportunity to see the area's rich cultural heritage and scenic landscape. We invite you for the optional pre-conference tour on Sunday to the Little Bighorn Battlefield—site of the 1876 battle between General Custer and the Sioux—and includes lunch. We will arrive back in Sheridan in time for the President's Reception, to be held at the Historic Sheridan Inn. The evening includes heavy hors d' oeuvres, entertainment, and an opportunity to network with dear friends and colleagues.

The delegate session on Monday, September 21, has a wide variety of speakers to familiarize you with the Cowboy State. Monday's guest program includes a bus tour to nearby Buffalo and a tour of a wool mill and lunch at the historic Occidental Hotel. Later in the evening, both delegates and guests will join for a tour of Kings Saddlery and Museum prior to the President's Awards Banquet.

Tuesday's tour across the Big Horn Mountains includes a visit to some of Wyoming's many *firsts*—foundation herd of Red Angus cattle breed and the United States' first dude ranch. It also includes a stop at a family produce and chicken farm. Upon our return, the evening is free for you to explore Sheridan and its many nearby suburbs: Story (pop. 828); Big Horn (pop. 490); Dayton (pop. 757); and Ranchester (pop. 855).

The conference concludes after the NARRC annual business meeting on Wednesday—by 10:00 a.m. Hotel room rates will be honored three days before and three days after to allow you to spend extra time in Wyoming. With the suspension of air service into Sheridan this spring, Wyoming has several other regional airports, or you can use airports in nearby states—Billings, Rapid City, or Denver. Shuttle service from Billings to Sheridan may be offered if there's sufficient interest. If you need any vacation planning ideas or assistance, don't hesitate to contact me. We want you to explore Wyoming while you are here for NARRC.

We look forward to seeing you in Sheridan in September.

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## Report of 2015 Mid-Year Planning Meeting—Sheridan, WY—By Vernon Eagan

**Call to Order:** The Mid-Year Planning Meeting of the 2014-2015 Board of Directors was called to order by Vice President William Stanley on Monday, May 4, 2015, at 8:50 a.m., in the Le Gourmet Room, of the Holiday Inn Hotel, in Sheridan, Wyoming. A quorum was established. Also present were Cindy Garretson-Weibel (WY) and Jeannie Eagan. Absent was President Steve Gallagher (AK). Mike Hinton was unable to attend.

**Opening Remarks:** Vice President Stanley welcomed everyone to Wyoming and expressed appreciation to the board for their commitment to NARRC. He also thanked the Eagans for their dedication to serving as secretary/treasurer and ensuring the smooth operation of NARRC. Vice President Stanley expressed appreciation to Cindy Weibel for all the hard work, time, and effort that she has put into hosting the 2015 Annual Meeting. It was noted that Mike Hinton will be with us in September and is scheduled to be on the agenda. **Director Terese Berg** gave the invocation.

**Minutes and Reports:** Upon motion by Berg/Alley, the Board approved the minutes—as read and previously distributed—of the Pre-Conference Board Meeting held September 14, 2014.

Upon motion by Gary/Frost, the Board approved the minutes—as read and previously distributed—of the Post-Conference Board Meeting held September 17, 2014.

Minutes of the September 17, 2014, Annual Business Meeting were reviewed for accuracy—no changes were indicated.

A detailed report of the secretary's activities was given by **Jeannie Eagan** to keep the board fully informed of the secretary/treasurer activities.

The financial report was given by **Secy/Treas Vernon Eagan**. Upon motion by Alley/Anseth, the Board approved the report as presented and to be filed for audit.

Website Committee member **Jeannie Eagan** reported that the website is up to date with changes being sent in to the website manager (Jason Crider) as changes occur.

**2015 Annual Meeting:** **Cindy Garretson-Weibel** gave a detailed report of plans for the Annual NARRC Conference on September 20-23, 2015, at the Holiday Inn Hotel, in Sheridan, Wyoming. Hotel lodging rates are \$92.00 (plus 10% tax) for single/double occupancy.

An optional pre-conference tour is planned for Sunday,

September 20, 2015, to Little Bighorn Battlefield (in Montana). The fee for this tour is \$75.00 per person and is in addition to the Conference registration fee.

Delegate registration fees will be \$375.00. Guest Registration fees will be \$200.00. Cindy will note all deadlines on the registration form.

On Sunday evening, the President's Reception and Entertainment will be held at the historic Sheridan Inn in downtown Sheridan. On Monday, the speaker topics for the delegate session will include: Philanthropy in Rural America; Tourism; an Update from USDA Liaison Mike Hinton; Agriculture; and Energy with a focus on water conservation. Monday's guest activity will include a trolley tour of downtown Sheridan; a bus tour to Buffalo, Wyoming, for a guided tour through Mountain Meadow Wool factory; lunch at Buffalo's historical Occidental Hotel followed by a tour of this facility; and shopping in this quaint town.

Also, on Monday afternoon, both delegates and guests will have the opportunity to tour the famous King's Saddlery and Museum in Sheridan. It is noted that Queen Elizabeth visited the Saddlery in 1984 while here in the U.S.

On Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, delegates and guests will board buses for a tour of a working cattle ranch; Eaton's Guest Ranch—the first dude ranch in the USA; and a Polo Field.

Wyoming host Cindy Weibel will send out the tentative agenda and the registration packet with associated costs to the states in May. This material will be sent both electronically and by US mail. She will also include airport option details due to the recent closing of the Sheridan Airport.

The NARRC board elected to meet on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 p.m., in the Strip Mine Room, for their pre-conference board meeting.

**2016 Annual Meeting:** **Director Frost** advised the board that Florida will host the 2016 Annual Meeting on September 24-28, 2016, at the Hilton Tampa Airport West Shore, in Tampa, Florida. The hotel is conveniently located for delegates and guests to have self-guided tours. Tentative speaker topics include: citrus; cattle, horticulture, and tropical fish. Florida's secretary of agriculture has been asked to speak and has indicated he would be pleased to do so. On Tuesday, a tour of the

**(Report of 2015 Mid-Year Planning Meeting cont'd)**

Publix facility may be on the schedule for delegates and guests.

**2017 Annual Meeting:** Jeannie Eagan advised that the Colorado Rural Rehab Corporation is committed to hosting the 2017 Annual Meeting on September 17-20, 2017, at the Hilton Fort Collins, in Fort Collins, Colorado.

**2018 Annual Meeting:** Vice President Stanley advised that South Carolina will issue an invitation to host the 2018 Annual Conference during the Annual Business Meeting session on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, in Sheridan.

**Unfinished Business:** NARRC Panel Discussion: After weighing the merits of a panel to discuss NARRC concerns, it was the consensus of the board to forego a panel this year, since that has been done quite regularly for the past several years.

**New Business:** Nominating Committee: Secy/Treas Eagan advised the following appointments by President Gallagher: Chair Don Jacka (KS); Thomas Carter (GA); and Tony Minicozzi (AR).

Audit Committee: Secy/Treas Eagan advised the following appointments by President Gallagher: Chair Kathy Colson (FL); Horace Horn (AL); and Tate Rusk (CO).

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

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*Top: Board Members touring Meadow Mountain Wool Factory in Buffalo, WY at our Mid-Year Planning Meeting. (This site will be on Monday's Guest Tour.)*

*Middle: Board Members relaxing in front of King's Saddlery and Museum in Sheridan. (Delegates and guests will tour this museum on Sunday evening.)*



*Opposite: Board Members and spouses in front of The Historic Sheridan Inn located down the street from King's Saddlery. The Sheridan Inn is the beautiful setting for our President's Reception also on Sunday evening.*

*Left to right front row: Dan and Terese Berg; Eleanor Alley; Harold Gary; Jeannie Eagan; and Bill Stanley.*

*Left to right back row: J. Lee Alley; Walt Anseth; Louis Frost; Vernon Eagan; and Terri LaBrie.*

## 2014-2015 NARRC OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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### Past President

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### USDA Liaison for Rural Rehab Funds:

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### Website Committee:

Stan Garbacz (NE), Chair  
Steve Ferguson (IA)  
Jeannie Eagan

[www.ruralrehab.org](http://www.ruralrehab.org)

### 2015 Nominating Committee:

Donald Jacka (KS) Chair  
Thomas Carter (GA)  
Tony Minicozzi (AR)

### 2015 Audit Committee:

Kathy Colson (FL) Chair  
Horace Horn (AL)  
Tate Rusk (CO)

*News items for the next Rural Rehabilitation Reports due out in January, 2016, are requested from member states. Send articles for publishing that would be of interest to the membership to: Vernon Eagan, NARRC Secretary/Treasurer; 4408 Dawson Drive; North Little Rock, AR 72116; or Email: egvnljj@swbell.net.*

## Future NARRC Annual Conferences

### 2015

**September 20-23, 2015—Sheridan, WY  
Holiday Inn  
1809 Sugarland Drive; Sheridan, WY 82801  
Phone: 307.672.8931  
Host Contact: Cindy Garretson-Weibel  
Email: cindy.weibel@wyo.gov**

### 2016

**September 24-28, 2016—Tampa, FL  
Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore Hotel  
2225 North Lois Avenue; Tampa, FL 33607  
Phone: 813.877.6688  
Host Contact: Sonny Roberts  
Email: frcinc@hotmail.com**

### 2017

**September 17-20, 2017—Fort Collins, CO  
Hilton Fort Collins Hotel  
425 W Prospect Rd; Fort Collins, CO 80526  
Phone: 970.482.2626  
Host Contact: Kenneth Miller  
Email: bpicket@fusainsurance.com**

### In Remembrance

Our deepest sympathies are extended to these families in the loss of their loved ones named below:

- **Rebecca Gallagher (AK)**, mother of **Steve Gallagher**, former NARRC president.
- **Charles Hamm (KS)**, KRRC Board Member.
- **Tom Walker (SC)**, past NARRC president.
- **James T. Powell (AL)**, former ARRC Board Member.
- **Wayne Barr (CO)**, former CRRC Board Member.
- **Avis Giffey (ND)**, mother of **Donnie Giffey**, NDRRC Board Member.
- **Richard Lengel (CO)**, CRRC Board Member.

### Rural Rehabilitation **REPORTS**

Vernon and Jeannie Eagan, Editor  
Additional copies of newsletter are available. Please contact Vernon Eagan, NARRC Secretary/Treasurer, 4408 Dawson Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72116, phone: 501.758.4723; or Email: egvnljj@swbell.net..