



~~IMPORTANT OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ELECTIONS~~

May 16, 2011

Dear NWSEO Member:

This letter is your notification of nomination and election procedures for 2011. It also contains information about the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual NWSEO Convention. ***The Union will post this letter and all checklists on our website: [www.nwseo.org](http://www.nwseo.org).***

You are invited to attend the 2011 NWSEO Convention to be held at the Raleigh Marriott City Center, Raleigh, NC on Sunday and Monday, September 25th and 26th, 2011. The Raleigh Marriott City Center is located on 500 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.

All NWSEO members are invited to attend the convention. Attendance at the convention is free. However, transportation, lodging and meals other than lunch and the Sunday night banquet are at your own expense.

*Please note that the union will pay the travel and hotel room expenses for any member who recruits at least two new members since the last convention (October 9, 2010) and before July 31, 2011. The new members must sign up using form 1187 and write who recruited them on the form for that member to receive credit for the recruitment.*

Each NWSEO Branch is required to elect a delegate and an alternate delegate to the convention. A convention delegate votes on issues that are placed on the agenda for the convention, such as the annual budget for the Union.

A delegate holds one vote for each NWSEO member in the branch or branches represented. If you are elected as a delegate, but cannot attend, then the alternate delegate will cast the votes in your place. You do not have to be elected as a delegate or an alternate delegate to attend the convention. Any member may attend, participate in the discussions and deliberations, and vote. If you attend the convention and are not a delegate then you will cast your own vote and the delegate elected for your branch will have one less vote to cast on behalf of your branch.

### **Hotel Reservations**

Reservations for the Raleigh Marriott City Center can be made by calling 1-888-236-2427 for worldwide reservations, or by calling 919-833-1120 (In order to get the negotiated room rate, you will need to indicate that you are attending the NWSEO convention.) You can also go to the NWSEO Convention Page on our website to make your reservations on-line at <http://nwseo.org/convention.php>. We have successfully negotiated a single/double room rate of \$90 per night per night plus an additional 13.75% for taxes. Room reservations must be made by August 25, 2011.

# 2011 ELECTIONS

The procedures to nominate NWSEO members for NWSEO offices, and to participate in elections for local officials, are set forth below. If more than one member is nominated for any branch office, then elections of local NWSEO steward, vice-steward, delegate and alternate delegate to the convention must be conducted by secret ballot.

## NOMINATION PROCEDURES

### A. Branch Steward/Vice Steward Nominations – BY JULY 1, 2011

If you are a member in good standing of a branch, you may nominate yourself or any other member in good standing from your local branch for the position of branch steward or vice steward. If you wish to nominate yourself or someone else to be branch steward or vice steward, you must notify your current local branch steward and regional chair **IN WRITING** no later than Friday, July 1, 2011. E-mail nominations are acceptable.

### B. Delegate/Alternate Delegate Nominations – BY JULY 1, 2011

If you are a member in good standing of a branch, you may nominate yourself or any other NWSEO member in your region to serve as a convention delegate or alternate delegate *for your local branch*. If you wish to nominate yourself or someone else to be a convention delegate or alternate delegate, you must notify your current branch steward **IN WRITING** no later than Friday, July 1, 2011. E-mail nominations are acceptable.

You may be elected as a delegate or alternate delegate from more than one branch within your region. You may nominate yourself or any other NWSEO member in your region to serve as a convention delegate or alternate delegate *for any other branch in your region*. If you wish to nominate yourself or someone else to be a convention delegate or alternate delegate for another branch, you must notify the current branch steward at the other branch **IN WRITING** no later than Friday, July 1, 2011. E-mail nominations are acceptable.

You may obtain the names and addresses of the current stewards at other branches by contacting Lisa Luciani, NWSEO Director of Communications, at 202-907-3036 or email:

[mediarelations@nwseo.org](mailto:mediarelations@nwseo.org).

Stewards are also listed on the NWSEO website at:

[http://www.nwseo.org/Directory/dir\\_index.php](http://www.nwseo.org/Directory/dir_index.php).

If you run as a delegate or alternate delegate, please plan to attend the convention.

**NOTE: NOMINEES FOR DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE SHOULD NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEMBER AS LISTED IN THE ENCLOSURE TO THIS LETTER. THIS WILL ENABLE THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE TO ENSURE THAT ALL NOMINEES APPEAR ON THE BALLOTS.**

**C. President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer Nominations – BY September 9, 2011**

If you have been a member of NWSEO since September 25, 2010, then you may nominate yourself to run as a candidate for National President, Executive Vice President, or National Secretary-Treasurer. Regardless of how long you have been an NWSEO member, you may nominate any other union member in your region as a candidate for National President, Executive Vice President, or National Secretary-Treasurer, provided that the person you nominate has been a member since September 25, 2010. If you wish to nominate yourself or another member as a candidate for National President, Executive Vice President, or National Secretary-Treasurer, you may do so by submitting the nomination in writing by delivering it in person or by registered or certified mail. Mail your nominations to:

Dan Sobien, President

National Weather Service Employees Organization

601 Pennsylvania Ave NW, South Building, Suite 900

Washington, D.C. 20004

Nominations for National President, Executive Vice President, or National Secretary-Treasurer must be received by **September 9, 2011**.

**VOTING PROCEDURES- MAIL BALLOTS BY JULY 15, 2011**

As noted above, nominations for branch steward, vice steward, delegate and alternate delegate must be submitted to the local branch steward no later than Friday, July 1, 2011. If more than one member is nominated for any branch office, then the current branch steward must prepare a ballot with the names of the nominees, and mail the ballot to each member of that branch at the member's home address.

The steward **MUST** place the names of all nominees on the ballot. If this is not done, then the branch votes may be invalidated. If you are a steward and you need help preparing this ballot or obtaining the home addresses for the members in your branch, then you should contact Peter Nuhn, Director of Membership Services, at 202-494-7859. You may ask your vice steward or any other NWSEO member in your branch to assist you with preparing and mailing the ballots. Do **NOT** to do this on work time.

To ensure that the election is completed in an orderly and timely manner, this must be completed no later than Friday, July 15, 2011.

## ***THESE ELECTIONS ARE NOT OPTIONAL.***

**THE BRANCH STEWARD MUST HOLD AN ELECTION IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE NOMINEE. IF THIS IS NOT DONE, THEN NWSEO MAY BE FOUND IN VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW, AND COULD BE SUBJECT TO ENFORCEMENT ACTION BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.**

HOWEVER, if there is only one nominee for any particular office, then there is no need to hold an election for that office, or to include that position on the ballot. That person is automatically “elected.”

Please notify your Regional Chair and your Credentials Committee member by e-mail immediately after nominations close on July 1, 2011, if you do not need to conduct an election because there was only one nominee for a given election.

### **DO NOT SIGN OR OTHERWISE IDENTIFY YOURSELF ON YOUR BALLOT.**

If there are more than two nominees for any particular office on the ballot, then you should vote preferentially for each candidate. This means that you should designate your choices as “1”, “2”, “3”, etc. for each office. If you experience any difficulties, please contact Peter Nuhn for assistance.

The branch steward will establish a sealed box in which members will return their ballots no later than July 29, 2011. Although it is not required, it is probably a good idea for the steward to convene a local NWSEO meeting for the purpose of opening the ballot box and counting the ballots.

Each nominee has the right to have an observer at the polls and at the tallying of the votes. Article 8, Sec.1. The counting of the ballots should take place as soon after July 29, 2011 as possible. Notification to the winning candidate and to the Regional Chairperson of the results should be made IMMEDIATELY thereafter.

### **There are four steps in reporting the election results**

1. Post the election results locally.
2. Complete the “Designation of Delegate” form. Be sure to have it signed by the newly elected Branch Steward, and mail it along with the ballots to the appropriate Credentials Committee member listed in the enclosure to this letter.
3. Mail a copy of the “Designation of Delegate” form to the delegate that you have elected.
4. Notify the current Regional Chairperson of the election results.

*If you are the branch steward*, you are responsible for counting the ballots and reporting the results.

A branch steward may obtain the assistance of the vice-steward in counting the ballots and notifying all parties of the election results.

**AS PROVIDED BY THE NWSEO BY-LAWS AT ARTICLE IX, SECTION 3, NEWLY ELECTED BRANCH STEWARDS AND VICE-STEWARDS TAKE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NEW BRANCH STEWARD TO ENSURE THAT THE NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS IS MADE. THE NEW BRANCH STEWARD MUST NOTIFY HIS/HER REGIONAL CHAIR OF HIS/HER NAME, HOME ADDRESS, HOME PHONE NUMBER AND PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS .**

### **CAMPAIGN RULES**

It is against the law to campaign for NWSEO office, to make nominations, or to solicit votes as a delegate from another branch using NWSEO stationery, postage, an NWSEO e-mail account, or otherwise at any NWSEO expense. Do NOT campaign using NWS telephones, stationery, or e-mail. Use of government equipment is authorized for representational purposes only, and not for internal NWSEO business.

It is permissible, however, for a steward to use NWSEO stationery, postage or telephone to conduct the local election; i.e., preparation or mailing of ballots, or notification of results. A steward may claim reimbursement for any election expenses that are incurred by submitting a request, along with appropriate receipts, to Peter Nuhn at the NWSEO mailing address, which appears above. If you become aware of any NWSEO member campaigning at NWSEO expense, you should report the matter immediately to Mr. Nuhn at 202-494-7859 or at [Peter@nwseo.org](mailto:Peter@nwseo.org) .

The procedures above are required by the NWSEO Constitution or By-laws, or have otherwise been approved by NWSEO's National Council to ensure fair and democratic elections. If you become aware that any of these procedures are not being complied with, you should first discuss the matter with your local steward. If this does not correct the problem, then please contact Mr. Nuhn immediately at 202-494-7859 or at [Peter@nwseo.org](mailto:Peter@nwseo.org) . He will be available to provide local branches with technical assistance needed to carry out local elections.

Checklists will be mailed to all Branch Stewards that will assist branch stewards and delegates in meeting all of the requirements detailed in this notice of election.

Very truly yours,  
Peter J Nuhn  
Election Administrator

## **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THEIR CREDENTIALING RESPONSIBILITIES**

Notifications of elections results may be emailed to the appropriate Credentials Committee member. Copies of all nominations for delegate, "Designation of Delegate" forms and ballots may be mailed to the following:

Eastern Region, Central Region, and NOAA Attorneys Guild:

Bill Hirt  
8714 N. Carson Ave  
Kansas City MO 64153-3646  
Email: [whirt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:whirt@sbcglobal.net)

Southern Region, AOML, AOC and CDA Wallops:

Robert Ebaugh  
3375 N. Country Club Drive #305  
Aventura, FL 33180  
Email: [ibeboe@yahoo.com](mailto:ibeboe@yahoo.com)

Western Region, Pacific Region, and Alaska Region:

Jeanne Allen  
8296 W. Pomona Court  
Boise, ID 83704-5700  
Email: [jma.pegasus@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jma.pegasus@worldnet.att.net)

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### **STEWARD'S ELECTIONS CHECK LIST: STEP 1. NOMINATIONS**

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*Nominations: No Later Than Friday, July 1, 2011*

\_\_\_\_\_ Receive branch steward and vice steward nominations in writing. E-mail nominations are acceptable.

\_\_\_\_\_ Receive convention delegate and alternate delegate nominations in writing from your branch, or another branch in your region. E-mail nominations are acceptable.

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## STEWARD'S ELECTION CHECKLIST: STEP 2. VOTING

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*To be completed by July 15, 2011-*

\_\_\_\_\_ If you are a current branch steward, and there is more than one nomination for any office, you must prepare a ballot with the nominations and mail it to each member in your branch at his or her home mailing address.

\_\_\_\_\_ Place all nominations on the ballot. You may ask your current vice steward or any other union member in your branch to assist you with preparing and mailing the ballots. You are strongly advised NOT to do this on work time.

\_\_\_\_\_ If there is only one nomination for any particular office, there is no need to hold an election for that office or to include that position on the ballot. That person is automatically "elected."

**Please notify your regional chairperson and appropriate Credentials Committee member by e-mail immediately after nominations close on July 1, 2011, if you do not need to conduct an election because there was only one nominee.**

\_\_\_\_\_ If there are more than two nominees for any particular office on the ballot, then members should vote preferentially. In other words, designate their choices as "1", "2", "3", etc.

*To be completed no later than July 20, 2011-*

\_\_\_\_\_ Establish a sealed box in which members can return their ballots.

*To be completed no later than July 29, 2011-*

\_\_\_\_\_ All ballots must be cast no later than July 29, 2011.

*To be completed as soon after July 29, 2011 as possible-*

\_\_\_\_\_ The ballot box should be opened and the ballots counted as soon after July 29, 2011 as possible. A local union meeting may be convened for the purpose of opening the ballot box and counting the ballots. So that an observer can be present, there should be notification to the nominees of the date, time and location where the ballots will be counted.

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## STEWARD'S ELECTION CHECKLIST: STEP 3. NOTIFICATIONS OF RESULTS

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*To be completed ASAP after July 29, 2011*

\_\_\_\_\_ Post the election results locally.

\_\_\_\_\_ Send e-mail notification of election results to regional chair and to the assigned Credentials Committee member. See below for notification addresses.

\_\_\_\_\_ Notify the appropriate Credentials Committee member of your Delegate and Alternate Delegate. **Notification can be made either by email or by completing the "Designation of Delegate" form and mailing it along with the ballots to the appropriate Credentials Committee member.** Please provide your delegate and alternate delegate with a copy of the email notification or signed Designation of Delegate form.

### *Eastern Region, Central Region, and NOAA Attorneys Guild Stewards:*

Send all voting ballots and Designation of Delegate forms to Credentials Committee member:  
Bill Hirt  
8714 N Carson Ave  
Kansas City, Missouri 64153-3646

Email notifications:

David Solano, Eastern Region Chair: [hydrodave2@comcast.net](mailto:hydrodave2@comcast.net) for Eastern Region;  
Martin Lee, Central Region Chair: [m.lee@nwseo.org](mailto:m.lee@nwseo.org) for Central Region; or  
Marguerite Matera, NAG Chair: [glou4@msn.com](mailto:glou4@msn.com) for NAGs and  
Bill Hirt, Credentials Committee: [whirt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:whirt@sbcglobal.net)  
Bill Hopkins, NWSEO Vice President (for NCEP): [execvice@nwseo.org](mailto:execvice@nwseo.org)

If no elections were necessary, e-mail your Chair and Credentials Committee member stating that no elections were necessary because there was only one candidate for each position.

### *Southern Region, AOML, AOC and CDA Wallops Stewards:*

Send all voting ballots and Designation of Delegate forms to Credentials Committee member:  
Robert Ebaugh  
3375 N. Country Club Drive #305  
Aventura FL 33180

E-mail election results to:

John Werner, Southern Region Chair: [nwseosr\\_chair@yahoo.com](mailto:nwseosr_chair@yahoo.com) if from Southern Region; or



Hugh Sharkey, NESDIS Chair: [hughsharkey@yahoo.com](mailto:hughsharkey@yahoo.com) if from NESDIS  
Robert Ebaugh, Credentials Committee: [ibebobe@yahoo.com](mailto:ibebobe@yahoo.com)  
Bill Hopkins, NWSEO Vice President (for NCEP): [execvice@nwseo.org](mailto:execvice@nwseo.org)

If no elections were necessary, then e-mail your Chair and Credentials Committee member stating that no elections were necessary because there was only one candidate for each position.

***Western Region, Pacific Region and Alaska Region Stewards:***

Send all voting ballots and Designation of Delegate forms to Credentials Committee member:  
Jeanne Allen  
8296 W. Pomona Court  
Boise, Idaho 83704-5700

E-mail election results to:

Robert Baruffaldi, Western Region Chair: [r.baruffaldi@nwseo.org](mailto:r.baruffaldi@nwseo.org) if from Western Region;  
Barry Hirshorn, Pacific Region Chair: [barryhirshorn@mac.com](mailto:barryhirshorn@mac.com) if from Pacific Region; or  
Jim Brader, Alaska Region Chair: [jimbrader@mosquitonet.com](mailto:jimbrader@mosquitonet.com) if from Alaska Region; and  
Jeanne Allen, Credentials Committee: [jma.pegasus@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jma.pegasus@worldnet.att.net)

If no elections were necessary, then e-mail your Chair and Credentials Committee member stating that no elections were necessary because there was only one candidate for each position.



*National Weather Service  
Employees Organization*

## **DESIGNATION OF DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO THE 2011 NWSEO CONVENTION**

I \_\_\_\_\_ do certify that the members of branch \_\_\_\_\_ elected, according to the rules of the National Weather Service Employees Organization's Constitution and Bylaws, the following delegate and alternate delegate to vote on any and all matters for the members of our branch, individually or collectively, that might come before the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual NWSEO Convention to be held on September 25 and September 26, 2011 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Delegate-Elect (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Delegate-Elect (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Steward or Vice-Steward

**Notification of the convention delegate by e-mail to the Credentials Committee is acceptable in lieu of a dated and signed "Designation of Delegate" form. However if an election was held, the ballots shall be sent to the Credentials Committee for certification of the results.**