

Happy summer all Jewish Affairs Caucus Members,

Many of us just returned from the NEA-RA in Denver. This year 7000 delegates represented your voice.

The JAC met each day and I wanted to share some of the discussions.

1. There were comments in regard to VP Becky Pringle's invocation. After I return from vacation, I will be corresponding with NEA leadership on the topic-it was a bit religious in nature.
2. There was discussion about the not for profit booth. We decided to continue it next year probably moving toward a T-shirt idea. However, it was quite obvious that the amount of purchasing in the not for profits was on a decline. With fewer delegates at the RA the booth would be more to have a presence and get out the message that we exist and less about making large sums of money.
3. In the coming months I will contact ADL, AIPAC etc to consider exhibiting next year in Orlando for the upcoming NEA RA.
4. Charlie, reelected treasurer for the millionth time, is going to find out the addresses of the three teens killed in Israel for a tree donation from JAC. As you know, Israel is in a crisis again and all of us are watching the news each day.
5. Patrick, re-elected Secretary of the JAC, and Rae, former chair, headed the object to consideration about a NBI regarding the Middle East. The caucus did not want to open a can of worms. They received a lot of help from other members of the caucus. Our sentiments were upheld.
6. Charlie and JR met with the Peace and Justice Caucus numerous times. Plans for joint activities are underway. Each caucus chair intends to write the leadership about the lack of communication (no notices in any printed or electronic publication) and the lack of meeting space.
7. Charlie and JR also met with the Maine delegation about the discontinuation of the student-retiree joint project before each RA. JR stood with the Maine delegate when she spoke to the budget item and tried to introduce an amendment supporting the project. The NEA leadership cut it all anyway.
8. Charlie, Patrick, Rae and JR attended the "wedding" of Lily Eskelsen Garcia, the newly elected President of the NEA. Pictures will follow on the website.
9. Dues for all members (retired or active) will now be \$25. Please, even if you can't attend the RA, stay a member of the JAC by sending Charlie your \$25.
10. Marc Jones from California was elected Vice Chair.

We had delegates join us from Illinois, California, Alaska, Michigan, Florida, Georgia, Texas, Utah, Oklahoma, Federal, Washington, Pennsylvania, Hawaii and Connecticut.

Keep in touch,

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Chair, Jewish Affairs Caucus