

**NARFE Chapter 1192**  
**Board Meeting Minutes, August 23, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER** President Don Binder called the meeting to order, 10:40 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. Board members present: Don; Lorie Bennett; Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Bill Darke; Carl Gallion.

The Board reviewed/discussed upcoming programs and future ideas, including having the meeting programs listed on the Chapter web site and in the upcoming newsletter.

**PROGRAMS – Upcoming**

- 09/07/11 *Gangs and what you need to know, Kennewick Police Department***  
(confirmed – speaker: Detective Dan Long, confirmed after the meeting; Don Binder)\*
- 10/05/11 *Contacting OPM/other agencies: using a computer and the F-100 to get what you/your family need to know*** (confirmed; Lorie Bennett and Nancy Crosby – Mary will contact District IV VP Bill Powers regarding a DVD presentation on the F-100; Don said we may want to include Social Security information in the presentation; computer equipment will be needed for the presentation)\*
- 11/02/11 *White Elephant Auction Fundraiser for NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund***  
(confirmed; Bill Darke)
- 12/07/11 *Tri-City Tappers and Silk Stockings*** (confirmed; Mary Binder)
- 01/04/12 *The Reach – Steve Lee, development associate*** (tentative; Don Binder)
- 02/01/12 *Social Security – Andrea Herboldt, public affairs specialist, SSA***  
(confirmed; Don Binder)\*
- 03/07/12 *Open***\*
- 04/04/12 *Antique Appraisers Terry and Kathy Maurer*** (confirmed; Johanna Caylor)
- 05/02/12 *Hanford – past, present and future*** (confirmed – speaker TBD; Mary Binder)\*
- 06/06/12 *Recap of Washington State Federation Convention***  
(confirmed; convention attendees)
- 09/05/12 *Elections: Candidates Running for Office*** (tentative; Don Binder – the Board discussed having the candidate, not a staffer; also at the meeting, a recap of the 2012 NARFE National Convention)

**PROGRAMS – Future Ideas** (New; brought forward)

- Medical Air Services Association – Chuck McNees** (tentative; Don Binder – Chuck contacted Don; he’ll pursue with NARFE as MASA is an advertiser with NARFE)\*
- Emergency Management Representative** (Don Binder; moved from February 2012)\*
- WSU Wine Science Center** (Mary Binder; moved from May 2012)\*
- Fire and safety specialist**
- Neighborhood Watch** (Dolores Rizzo suggestion)
- Blue Mountain Wildlife, Pendleton; Alan Cliff, Native American spiritual leader**  
(Dolores Rizzo suggestion based on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010, article, Tri-Cities Herald)
- Seeing-eye dogs and/or police dogs and their roles** (Dolores Rizzo suggestion)
- Long-term care policies** (Carl Gallion/Carolyn Reeploeg)
- Advanced Medical, Spaulding Business Park** (a new concept for the area; Mable Rutt)
- American Cancer Society**
- Area senior housing options; VA options**
- Recycling opportunities in the Tri-Cities region** (Mary Binder)
- Veterans issues** (Faye Vlieger suggestion; Board discussed this as a resource for membership vs. an actual meeting program. Suggestion made to discuss further with Faye.)\*
- Umatilla Chemical Depot – closure update** (Mary Binder; Board discussed having a final update in late 2012 or in 2013, depending on closure activities and the schedule)\*

\* Reflect changes since the June Executive Board meeting

## **OFFICERS**

**President** – Don Binder. From Don:

- He and Mary attended the August 18 WSFC Executive Board meeting in Tacoma; Don provided the Chapter Board a summary from that meeting. A copy of the summary will go to all Board members. The next WSFC Board meeting is Thursday, November 10, in Tacoma.
- **PROTECT America's Heartbeat** campaign material has been updated recently; we need to continue to use it, especially to contact our elected officials.
- NARFE membership continues to decline; it is now under 295,000. We all need to work on recruiting/retaining members. NARFE headquarters does about 80% of the recruitment; chapters lose members. Need to change this trend.
- The Chapter's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is scheduled for the September Chapter meeting. The Board reviewed and discussed the plans.
  - Carl confirmed with the hotel that we can arrive at 10 a.m. to set up, that the extra tables and change to the set up was OK, and that the hotel will not provide dessert as we'll be bringing a cake.
  - Don and Mary will provide the cake.
  - Information about the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be in the next Chapter newsletter; Mary will also send out a news release to area media and include information in the announcement for *Friday Facts for Feds* and for the *Tri-City Herald*.
  - Information will also go to Pam Griffin for the callers.
  - Johanna gave Ruby Ulseth photos to try to identify and arrange for display at the meeting. The plan is to have a table with material from each of the Chapter's 4 decades.
  - Leon Bennett will be the photographer.
- The 2012 combined District I/V workshop will be in the Tri-Cities; Chapter 1192 is hosting. Proposed dates are April 12 or 19, with the 19<sup>th</sup> being the preferred date. Carl will contact the Kennewick Red Lion regarding having the workshop at the hotel, including getting prices and set up information.
- Charlie Caughlan, WSFC service officer, has agreed to chair the WSFC 2012 convention.
- Yakima Chapter has expressed preliminary interest in hosting the WSFC 2014 convention; if they don't host, Don said he is recommending Chapter 1192 offer to host. He should have an answer in September after the Yakima chapter has its meeting. Don has had a preliminary discussion about the convention with Alex Hedges, the Chapter's contact point at the Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau. The Bureau can be of assistance to the Chapter in everything from soliciting for a location to providing area brochures/handouts to attendees.
- Don said he still wants to explore a trial membership in the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce. More details at future Board meetings once he gets updated information.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** – Carl Gallion. No report.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** – Lorie Bennett. No report.

**Secretary** – Mary Binder. From Mary:

- She needs comments on the June meeting and Board minutes to finalize them.
- Provide her any updates to the NARFE Chapter 1192 Officer/Chair Roster, April 7, 2011.
- As the WSFC *Federation Reporter* editor, she is trying to reduce newsletter mailings and move more toward electronic. She canvassed Board members regarding receiving mailed vs. electronic copies.
- The next Board meeting – Board concurred with Thursday, September 29, 10:30 a.m., and again at the Tri-City Country Club if it is available. [Note: confirmed for September 29 at the Club.] Also, the Board discussed remaining flexible as to future Board meetings – some may be after Chapter meetings; others may need to be on separate days.

**Treasurer** – Nancy Crosby. From Nancy:

- She presented the July treasurer's report; Larry Williams has it for the Chapter's web site.
- The Chapter has had some big expenses, e.g., reimbursement to Convention attendees, so she is monitoring the budget; however, the big projected expenses are now paid for the year.

**District Vice President** – Steve Anderson. From Steve:

- He is planning to attend the Chapter's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.
- Don reported that Steve also provided a summary of the August WSFC Executive Board meeting; it was sent primarily to district presidents. He, too, highlighted the need for all to work to recruit and retain members.

## **COMMITTEES**

### **Alzheimer's** – Chairman Bill Darke. From Bill:

- Currently, \$199.95 in the Chapter Alzheimer's account.
- \$76 earned from selling the Washington State pins at the Convention.
- As of July, NARFE member contributions to Alzheimer's Research were around \$47K.

### **Caller Coordinator** – Pam Griffin. No report.

- Don said he would be calling Pam.
- Johanna is updating membership names/information for the callers to use in September.

### **Hospitality** – Chairman Carl Gallion. From Carl:

- Sabrina Sevier is our new contact person at the Kennewick Red Lion.
- With Sabrina being new, Carl will contact her soon to begin contract negotiations.
- The Board discussed exploring other meeting location options. Mary said she would contact the Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau regarding possibly preparing a solicitation and soliciting for us. Meeting time would be 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., with additional time needed some months for a Board meeting after the Chapter meeting.
- The Board discussed the 6-month trial of \$13 vs. \$14 for lunch and whether the Chapter should continue paying the extra dollar for those only paying \$13. The Board decided to eliminate the \$13 option; lunches are currently \$14, with an increase expected for 2012.

### **Legislative** – Co-chairs Mary and Don Binder. From Don:

- Don, Mary, District V VP Steve Anderson and Yakima Chapter President Vic Rohret are scheduled to meet with Rep. Doc Hastings in his Pasco office Tuesday, August 30.
- They are also scheduled to meet with Rebecca Thornton, Senator Patty Murray's district representative. She is based in Yakima.
- Denny Heck contacted Don; he ran for the House of Representatives, District 3, in 2010 but lost to Jamie Herrera Beutler. Don said Denny intends to run in Washington's new congressional district; preliminary findings regarding the district's boundaries are expected to be announced September 13.

### **Membership** – Chairman Johanna Caylor. From Johanna:

- Survey – Johanna previously provided updated draft member survey information. Don said he does want to pursue a survey; he/Mary still need to review the draft. Mary also said she is exploring a way the Chapter could do the survey electronically at no cost. This method could be used for those members for whom we have e-mail addresses; for other members, the survey could be mailed and/or completed at a Chapter meeting.
- Membership Action Plans – Due to an oversight, the Chapter's MAP was not submitted until August. Don and Mary reported that the Federation will be taking a new approach to MAPs – tying them to NARFE/Federation goals. They can also be submitted to coincide with a Chapter's budget cycle; therefore, a new Chapter MAP will need to be prepared this fall. WSFC Membership Chairman Frances Titus will be developing MAP guidelines.
- We need to remind members to review their NARFE contact and personal information, and update their records if necessary. This can be done electronically.
- No WSFC Attention/Retention Program postcards sent out for about 2 months.
- The Board discussed recruiting and retaining members.
  - Don stated that NARFE has 2 committees reviewing these issues; a recommendation coming forth is splitting these functions at the chapter level. Don sent an e-mail to Board members with the PowerPoint presentations from these committees that were made at the July NARFE presidents' meeting in Reno.
  - Service Office volunteers can make calls to new and dropped members; Lorie will develop a template for making calls and logging information.
  - Ruby Ulseth has a list of retired Hanford ladies; maybe that could be used to recruit new members.
  - It was pointed out that the Yakima chapter consistently receives awards for having the most number of members on dues withholding. [Note: Don is exploring how the chapter gets members on dues withholding with Vic Rohret.]
  - A motion was made and seconded to offer current AFEs 2 years free Chapter dues (\$10 each year for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year memberships) as a recruiting tool to get AFEs to join and to retain them at least 3 years. The motion passed. [Note: Members can only sign up for a year's membership; reimbursement of Chapter dues would be after the AFE renews the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years.]

- Fall area FEHBP health fairs are October 12, 3 locations: Federal Building and Stevens Center, Richland; Social Security Office, Kennewick. Johanna and Sig can do the Richland fairs; Lorie and Nancy will be at the Social Security Office event.

**NARFE-PAC** – Chairman Carl Gallion. From Carl and Don:

- No contributions over the summer, but Carl said he expects that to change with meetings resuming.
- PAC has no corresponding push such as for Alzheimer's, per Don. He has been discussing this issue with Lanny Ross, NARFE regional VP.

**Newsletter** – Chairman Johanna Caylor. From Johanna and Mary:

- Some September/October articles are overdue to Mary; they were due August 12.
- Goal is to have the newsletter mailed by September 1 as it will have information about the Chapter's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.
- Six newsletters were returned from the July/August newsletter mailing. For e-mailed newsletters, the Board agreed to mailing copies for those whose e-mails bounce back.

**[Note: Remaining 2011 Chapter newsletter article deadlines: October 7; December 9.]**

**Parliamentarian** – Mable Rutt. No report.

**Public Relations** – Chairman Mary Binder. From Mary:

- Recap from the Washington State Association of Letter Carriers Convention, June 2/3, Lorie Bennett attended for the Chapter, and the Senior Life Show, June 17, that Mary and Don attended. The Board discussed options for making these type events more successful for NARFE and the Chapter, e.g., being on the podium/having time to address the group; being introduced/having a partnership with an organization, e.g., unions – something NARFE is pursuing; being recognized in the organization's convention program.
- Recommended supporting the Senior Life Show again in 2012.

**Service Office** – Chairman Lorie Bennett. From Lorie:

- The Service Office will serve as the Chapter's repository for records, photos, etc. She will have a meeting at the Service Office after the September Chapter meeting to discuss how best to store and/or display the material.
- The office has been staffed throughout the summer; Ruby Ulseth has been a great fill in; Lorie will need a replacement for October 4.

**Sunshine Committee** – Marcia Lingle. No report. The Board discussed finding someone to help with this function as Marci is out of the area for an extended period as a snowbird. Nancy said she would contact Carolyn Reeploeg and talk further with Marci regarding her schedule. We may want to ask for a volunteer/volunteers at the September meeting.

**Web site** – Larry Williams. No report.

- Lorie said she and Larry have not met to train her as his back up. She will send Larry an e-mail to schedule a time.
- Mary said she and Larry still need to do work on developing a Chapter master calendar.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING** – Thursday, September 29, 10:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. Attendees can order lunch from the menu.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** – 2:25 p.m.

**Prepared by:**

*Mary Alice Binder*

*Secretary*