

NARFE Chapter 1192
Board Meeting Minutes, February 9, 2012

CALL TO ORDER President Don Binder called the meeting to order just after 10:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. Board members present: Don; Lorie Bennett; Mary Binder; Nancy Crosby; Bill Darke; Carl Gallion; Larry Williams.

Don thanked Lorie for conducting the February Chapter meeting in his absence. Next, the Board reviewed/discussed upcoming programs and future ideas. Changes/updates are highlighted in red below.

PROGRAMS – Upcoming

- 03/07/12 Area Senior Housing Options – Beth Johnson, information specialist, Aging & Long Term Care of Southeast Washington** (re-confirmed; no equipment needed; sending a bio; Nancy Crosby)
- 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 still needs to confirm name of speaker**)
- 06/06/12 Recap of 2012 Washington State Federation Convention** (confirmed; convention attendees)
- 09/05/12 Elections: Candidates Running for Office** (tentative, depending on whether a candidate vs. a staffer could attend; **Don will look at candidates running for local offices as other possibilities**; also, a recap of the 2012 NARFE National Convention; Don Binder)
- 10/03/12 SHIBA – Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors** (surfaced as a recommendation during Andrea Herboldt's February presentation; agency representative could provide information on selecting healthcare provider, including Medicare; **Mary Binder will contact Andrea for local SHIBA contacts**)
- 11/07/12 White Elephant Auction Fundraiser for NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund** (confirmed; Bill Darke)
- 12/05/12 Holiday Entertainment** (**Board recommended contacting the musician for the Tri-City Tappers as a possibility; Mary Binder will follow up**)

PROGRAMS – Future Ideas (New; brought forward)

- Tri-Cities area gang task force** (*Board discussed revisiting this issue with a focus on the regional task force and/or the Yakima area female police officer who gave a presentation Larry and Johanna attended*)
- Medical Air Services Association – Chuck McNees** (*tentative as Chuck is not available until after March; Don Binder said he'd write to Chuck for an update on his availability*)
- Emergency Management Representative** (*moved from February 2012; Don Binder will explore as a future option*)
- WSU Wine Science Center** (*Mary Binder; moved from May 2012; Mary recommended waiting until fall 2012 or winter/spring 2013 to allow for more development at the Center*)
- 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*)
- American Cancer Society**
- Recycling opportunities in the Tri-Cities region** (*Mary Binder*)
- Umatilla Chemical Depot – closure update** (*Mary Binder; final update in late 2012 or in 2013, depending on closure activities and the schedule*)

OFFICERS

President – Don Binder. From Don:

- February 15, a reminder – this is the next NARFE National Call Day to Congress as part of **PROTECT America's Heartbeat**. NARFE is also asking union members to participate. Carl Gallion said it is hard to get through on call days as lines are busy, but e-mails work.
- April 19, District I/V Workshop. The Board reviewed who from the Chapter is projecting to attend; currently, 11 – Lorie Bennett; Don and Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Bill Darke; Carl Gallion; Mary Goldie; Sig Preston; Nancy Schreckhise; and, Larry Williams. At \$14/each for lunch, this will cost the Chapter \$154. Costs for breakfast and afternoon snacks will be split between the districts. Larry said attending his first workshop helped him learn more about NARFE and to get involved – an important “selling point” as we encourage other Chapter members to attend. The Board also discussed a February 3 e-mail from District V VP Steve Anderson requesting 5 to 10 reasons that our chapter considers are “the most compelling reasons (or arguments) to say to prospective members as to why they should join NARFE.” Mary will send the responses to Steve. Carl provided an update on his interface with the Red Lion for the workshop; all is on track.
- May 14 – 16, WSFC Convention, Red Lion Hotel Vancouver on the Quay. Legislation and the legislative process will be the overall focus. Many deadlines are coming up in March, including nominations for WSFC officers. Nancy, the WSFC Nomination Committee chairman, said that, to date, she'd only received one nomination. Mary said she is drafting an ad for the program book and will send to the Board for review. Those projecting to attend are: Don and Mary Binder; Lorie Bennett; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Carl Gallion; Mary Goldie (tentative); and, Sig Preston.
- NARFE's 32nd National Convention will be August 26 – 30, Sparks, near Reno. The Chapter will not be submitting any resolutions. Currently, the following members are planning to attend: Lorie Bennett; Don and Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Midge Loth; Sig Preston; and Larry Williams. Mary Goldie is a possibility; she said she'll know in July. Lorie and Don will talk regarding Lorie being on a committee. The chapter has a table for 10 reserved for the banquet; Don will ask at the district workshop if there is someone else from another chapter who'd like to join our Chapter 1192 at its table.

1st Vice President – Carl Gallion. At a previous Board meeting, Carl had proposed having a brainstorming session regarding the Chapter again hosting pre-retirement seminars. Carl provided some background summary information: the seminars were very successful; we stopped when NARFE national got involved with pre-retirement seminars; and, having the seminars helped the Chapter's treasury. Carl said he would work on a committee to explore this issue. Don said he would explore getting a copy NARFE's curriculum and contact Ken Kaul in the Spokane chapter about the curriculum they use for their pre-retirement seminars. Lorie said she would talk with her husband, Leon, about possibly being on the committee and/or for his ideas from an HR perspective. Tentative target time frame for an initial seminar is the fall.

2nd Vice President – Lorie Bennett. Lorie said she will not be at the March meetings. Regarding future Chapter group activities, Lorie checked with Boise-Cascade at Wallula; they are not open to the public. She is currently waiting for a call back from a point of contact at Hanford regarding a tour there. Lorie now has the schedule for this year's Dust Devil's games; she shared those with Board members and asked members to provide her feedback on dates. She is also exploring a bus option to a Mariner's game.

Secretary – Mary Binder. The Board agreed to hold its next meeting Wednesday, March 7, immediately following the monthly Chapter meeting.

Treasurer – Nancy Crosby.

- Nancy highlighted the treasurer's report for the period ending January 31. She reminded the Board that the \$3,300 figure for available funds after obligations will change as dues reimbursement funds are received; but at this time of the year/budget cycle, the “balance on hand for use” figure traditionally drops.
- The Board discussed NARFE's latest guidance on using chapter dues for charitable donations. (NARFE GEMS message, Wednesday, February 1, 2012, Subject: Guidance on use of Chapter Dues) With members voting at a Chapter meeting on whether or not to make a donation, e.g., with the passing of Chapter Deacon Al Rizzo, the Chapter is meeting the guidance in NARFE's memo. Nancy also said that through the 50/50 donations at meetings, the Chapter has access to funds other than Chapter dues for charitable donations.

- Nancy said she needs someone to audit the Chapter's books. With the one-page checklist NARFE has developed, it is an easy process. Larry said he would do the audit. **[Note: Following the meeting, Nancy reported it would be more appropriate to have someone other than a Board member do the audit. She said she would ask Sandy Smith.]**

District Vice President – Steve Anderson. Note April 19 workshop report above.

COMMITTEES

Alzheimer's – Chairman Bill Darke. Bill said he collected \$54 at the Chapter's February meeting, sent \$100 to the Federation, leaving \$48 in the Chapter's Alzheimer's account. To date, he'd not received an updated report from Ray Patterson, WSFC Alzheimer's chairman, but since the May 2011 WSFC convention, the Chapter has donated \$1,425.37.

Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin. Nancy Crosby volunteered to take over calling names on the list Mable Rutt had. The Board discussed ways to recruit more callers, e.g., telling them how many calls they'd have to make to put calling in better perspective. The more callers, the fewer calls each has to make.

Hospitality – Chairman Carl Gallion. No additional report.

Legislative – Co-chairs Don and Mary Binder.

- With the new federal redistricting results released, in his role as the WSFC PAC coordinator, Don said he'd been in touch with Sandy Cagle, WSFC president, regarding reviewing WSFC's districts/chapter distribution. Based on that, he's drafted proposed changes that the WSFC Executive Board will discuss at its February 23 meeting. Potentially affecting Districts I and V – dividing them using I-90 vs. congressional districts. Don also reported that District I VP Teri Sannar and District III VP Bonnie Seesholtz are not planning to run again.
- The Board discussed the challenges of keeping members informed vs. bombarding and overloading them with information. As a starting point to exploring who is getting what, Don said he would check with NARFE regarding which Chapter members are on GEMS.

Membership – Chairman Johanna Caylor. Johanna is still "snowbirding," but keeping up with reports and other membership issues.

NARFE-PAC – Chairman Carl Gallion.

- NARFE will have new pins available soon for the new PAC contribution categories; contributions made from January 2011 through the present will be used to issue pins.
- The District V PAC contribution challenge continues through March 31. The district chapter with the highest per member contribution will be recognized at the April district workshop.

Newsletter – Chairman Johanna Caylor.

- For Johanna, Mary reported articles are due to her not later than Friday, February 10, for the March/April newsletter. **[Other 2012 article deadline dates are: April 13; June 8; August 10; October 12; December 7.]**
- Mary said she is exploring non-profit mailing permit options and will provide a report via e-mail once she has more details. The goal is to have this issue resolved before the next newsletter is mailed at the end of the month.

Parliamentarian – Mable Rutt. No report.

Public Relations – Chairman Mary Binder. No additional report.

Service Office – Chairman Lorie Bennett. The draft template for SO volunteers call/track new/dropped members is complete. Nancy Crosby has reviewed it and commented. Others are asked to comment and provide feedback to Lorie by the end of the month.

Sunshine Committee – Marcia Lingle/Nancy Crosby. Nancy will be taking over for Carolyn Reeploeg, who was filling in for Marci Lingle while she is snowbirding. The Board discussed canvassing members to see if someone else could help support with Sunshine.

Website – Larry Williams. Larry continues to monitor the Chapter's web stats and review/delete obsolete material. Mary Binder still owes Larry dates for the Chapter's master calendar project.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – Wednesday, March 7, Kennewick Red Lion Hotel, immediately after the Chapter meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED – about 12:47 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary