

NARFE Chapter 1192
April 4, 2012 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Don Binder called the Chapter's regular monthly meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. He led the Pledge of Allegiance; introduced the head table; and, welcomed 23 members and 9 guests. (Guests/new members: Sharon and John Patten; Joe and Joyce Pavlinac. Transfer in member: Diane Clark. Former member: Pat Grady, and guest Sharon Gittleman. Program presenters: Terry and Kathy Maurer.)

MEETING MINUTES Don said he and Secretary Mary Binder recently attended a Robert's Rules of Order class sponsored by the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce. One of the things they learned was that even the "nod-of-approval" approach Mary had been using for minutes vs. reading them, was not necessary [as draft minutes are approved by the Board, finalized, then posted on the Chapter's web site and available at meetings]. This approach will continue to help streamline meetings. Don said if there were questions, members should feel free to talk with Mary. **[Note: Both Board and Chapter minutes are on the Chapter's web site and available at meetings.]**

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Don Binder.

- April 19, District I/V Workshop – Don reminded members that the workshop is open to all chapter members at no cost. The chapter is paying for each member's lunch, \$16. Anyone still wanting to attend can contact him, Secretary Mary or Treasurer Nancy Crosby. As both district's vice presidents are stepping down, there will be elections at the workshop to select new VPs. Guest speakers will include NARFE Region IX (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington) Vice President Lanny Ross and Washington State Federation of Chapters President Sandy Cagle. **[Note: Members Frank and Pam Griffin, Bill Hoyt and Ruby Ulseth signed up to attend, bringing the chapter's projected total to 17.]**
- May 14-16, WSFC Convention, Red Lion Hotel Vancouver at the Quay. The early registration period with a reduced rate ended March 31, but members interested in attending can still register. Secretary Mary has registration forms. **[Note: Secretary Mary collected 9, \$1 "booster" donations from Chapter members at the meeting for the Convention program's Booster List. Contributions help offset costs for the chapter/chapters hosting conventions. With the \$17 she collected at the March meeting, the Chapter's contribution is \$26. Mary will submit the required paperwork and check.]**
- August 26-30, NARFE National Convention, Sparks/Reno. Don announced that Johanna Caylor had been selected as the Convention's vice chairman, Ballots and Tellers Committee. To be selected for such a position for NARFE's National Convention is a significant recognition. Don encouraged members to consider attending the convention as it is closer to home than most such NARFE conventions, potentially making it easier and less expensive to attend.
- April 27 – NARFE 2012 Scholarship Competition application deadline; details are in the *NARFE* magazine. Scholarships are for \$1K and for qualifying graduating high school seniors.
- Copies of a "training survey" were at members' tables. Don reminded members that after this year's state convention, the Washington Federation would move to an every-two-year convention cycle with a statewide training workshop for the alternate years. To help in planning the first workshop, Federation President Sandy Cagle has prepared a short survey asking for member input. Don encouraged members to complete the survey before they left the meeting.
- Effective May 1, NARFE's Retirement Benefits Service Department will become the Federal Benefits Service Department to better describe the department's services. Phone number and e-mail address remain the same.

1st Vice President Carl Gallion. No report.

2nd Vice President Lorie Bennett.

- June 14, Hanford B-Reactor Tour – Lorie said we can fill a bus for 40. Currently, there is space for both members and their guests, including non-NARFE members. Minimum age is now 12 vs. 18 years. Arrival time at Reactor Tour Headquarters is 10:30 a.m.; the bus departs at 11. The tour will include the B-Reactor itself and the history behind its development. She suggested

bringing snacks and water as nothing will be available once the bus departs. Those wanting to attend can call or e-mail Lorie (**Ph: 509.531.2745 or E-mail: lorieb@clearwire.net**).

- Lorie is continuing to work on a date for the Chapter to attend a Dust Devils baseball game.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Nancy Crosby.

- Highlighted the March treasurer's report. Balance on hand as of February 29, \$7,360.41. March receipts were \$392.42 and disbursements, \$822.42, leaving a balance of \$6,930.41. Projected obligations are \$3,636.00, leaving an unobligated funds balance of \$3,294.41. [**Note: President Don said reporting chapter treasury information will also be streamlined at meetings based on what he learned at the Robert's Rules of Orders class referenced above. Treasurer reports are on the Chapter's web site and at meetings.**]
- **Monies collected at the April meeting/since the previous meeting** Luncheon, \$336; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$13; NARFE-PAC, \$22; Newsletter Fund, \$13; and 50/50 Raffle, \$24 collected/\$12 awarded (and donated to NARFE-PAC).

District V Vice President Steve Anderson. From Secretary Mary, Steve continues to encourage members to attend the April 19 Districts I/V workshop.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke. Bill said since the 2011 May state convention, which began the Federation's current annual cycle, Chapter 1192 has donated \$1,425.37. NARFE's total contribution to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund now exceeds \$9M. NARFE's goal is to reach \$10M in 2012. Any amount is welcome, but for amounts of at least \$20, there is a pin. Make checks payable to "NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund."

Caller Coordinator Chairman Pam Griffin. Pam thanked Mary Goldie for volunteering to again be a caller. Ongoing – Pam can use more callers. [**Contact info: E-mail: pgriff1@charter.net; Ph: 509.492.4304.**]

Hospitality Chairman Carl Gallion. Carl reminded members about the importance of making meeting lunch reservations. This helps the Red Lion.

Legislative Co-chairmen Don and Mary Binder. Don reported:

- Congress is officially out of session this week. Locally, our U.S. Congressman Doc Hastings recently announced he is again running for Congress. Currently, he is unopposed. Our U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell is also running and does have candidates running against her.
- **PROTECT America's Heartbeat (www.ProtectAmericasheartbeat.com)**. The "PAH" campaign's toolkit has been updated, including the letter templates – an easy and effective way to get letters with important NARFE positions to our elected officials. The updated 56 pages are on NARFE's web site. Members can access it via NARFE's web site, www.narfe.org. Don encouraged those not signed up for NARFE's GEMS (Global Electronic Messaging System) to do so as it is a very good way for members to get the latest announcements and information from NARFE. Again, just go to NARFE's website.

Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor. Johanna reminded all members to let her/NARFE know if they change mailing and/or e-mail addresses. Recruiting members remains important; and, dues withholding for retirees can simplify the membership dues/renewal process. Johanna has the forms and can help members with dues withholding.

NARFE-PAC Chairman Carl Gallion.

- The pins for NARFE's newly revised PAC program will be sent soon to qualifying member donors from NARFE headquarters. Don, as the Washington State Federation of Chapters NARFE-PAC chairman, said he hopes to have samples to show members at the Districts I/V workshop, and/or the next Chapter meeting or Federation convention.
- District V's PAC contest ended March 31. Results will be announced at the Districts I/V workshop and at the next Chapter meeting.
- As of March 31, the end of the 5th quarter for the 102nd Congress, 2011-2012, our Chapter had contributed \$1,422. PAC contributions are a primary way to help protect our interests and benefits.
- Carl reminded members about the "bucket" on the back table for PAC – loose change is welcome! All contributions are welcome; pins are given for contributions of at least \$20.

Newsletter Chairman Johanna Caylor.

- Articles for the May/June Chapter newsletter are due to Secretary Mary by Friday, April 13.
- Sending newsletters via e-mail vs. standard mailing saves the chapter money. For those with e-mail addresses and not currently receiving the newsletter and other correspondence electronically, please consider doing so. It saves the chapter money.

Public Relations Chairman Mary Binder. **[Note: The Chapter's monthly meeting announcement was in the March 30, DOE Friday Facts for Feds, and the Sunday, April 1, Tri-City Herald.**

Service Officer Lorie Bennett. No report.

Sunshine Chair Marci Lingle; alternate, Nancy Crosby. Nancy reported she:

- Sent get-well cards to members Carolyn Reeploeg, Ruby Ulseth and Sandy Smith.
- Sent condolence cards to the families of members Florence George and Ed Goldberg, both of whom recently passed away.
- Sent condolence card to member Kay Hendrickson whose mother-in-law passed away.
- Sent a 50th anniversary congratulations card to Eileen and Jim Rutledge.

Website Webmaster Larry Williams. No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April Birthdays/Anniversaries Birthdays: Leon Bennett; Don Binder; Diane Clark

Anniversaries: Jim/Johanna Caylor; Don/Mary Binder

Drawings Pat Grady, free lunch; Don Binder, \$12, 50/50 raffle (donated back to PAC)

Executive Board Meeting no meeting today

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, May 2, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick

April Meeting Program Hanford: Past, Present and Future (speaker to be announced)

NEW BUSINESS None

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Secretary Mary summarized an e-mail from member John Wetterling as a follow up to the Chapter's March meeting program. After speaker Beth Johnson's presentation regarding the Southeast Washington Aging & Long-Term Care agency and its programs, including its services, John called 3 local care facilities to learn how they handle individuals with long-term care insurance. For those members wanting a copy of the e-mail, Mary can provide it.

MEETING ADJOURNED 12:35 p.m.

PROGRAM

Terry and Kathy Maurer, Maurer Antique Appraisals Terry and Kathy returned as the Chapter's April meeting program – now annual tradition for 7 years. They are accredited and licensed as antique appraisers in the State of Washington. Chapter members brought a wide variety of items for appraising. Some Kathy and Terry could appraise; others would require more research; and for others, they provided subject-matter expert contact information. Following is additional information from both Maurers:

- There are **many** federal regulations today on buying/selling firearms. **[Note: As a safety reminder for next year, do not bring firearms for appraisal.]**
- **Write it down!** The story/family story behind an antique/special item is very important. If the story skips a generation, it is lost.
- The “Blue Willow” pattern is the most produced pattern worldwide.
- For collecting, blue is a good color, and also red and yellow.
- Note the spelling – Wedgwood vs. Wedgwood. Two different companies. “Wedgwood” is what most of us think of as the English pottery company.
- For those interested in items with flowers – the rose is a good flower to collect.
- Bears – if you have to have a bear, have/collect a Steiff bear.
- Baskets – pick them up from the bottom not the sides as the sides can shatter.

- Items from Germany marked with Germany, Bavaria/U.S. Zone (and other “zones”) are collectible/of interest.
- Chinese buyers – currently, one of the strongest buying/selling markets worldwide. Chinese people are “buying back their heritage,” that is, buying back Chinese items previously sold to others.
- Hat/clothing – if possible, have a picture of the original owner wearing the item.
- Today's generation “buys to use” not “to shelve.”
- Cleaning silver and silver plate – do not dip; use a soft cleaner such as Wright's cream.

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary