

NARFE Chapter 1192
April 6, 2016 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Lorie Bennett called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. She reminded members to turn off/silence their mobile devices. She welcomed 23 members and 2 guests – today’s program speakers, Terry and Kathy Maurer. Lorie called for a moment of silence for those who have passed away, led the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced board members.

BOARD/CHAPTER MINUTES/TREASURER REPORTS/PROGRAM SIGN-UP SHEETS, ETC.

Note: chapter minutes and treasurer reports are on the chapter’s website; copies are also at meetings. Event sign-up sheets, the latest chapter newsletter, and miscellaneous handouts and NARFE forms/publications are also at meetings.

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President/Service Officer/Special Programs *Lorie Bennett.*

- Lorie encouraged members to attend the WSFC convention, May 15-17.
- Lorie also encouraged members to consider attending the NARFE national convention in Reno, August 28 to September 1, in Reno. Registration is now open.
- NARFE *Strategic Plan* – updates are on the NARFE website. Lorie encouraged members to read the plan and let her know if there were questions, issues, concerns, etc.
- Lorie encouraged members to respond to NARFE’s requests to contact our elected officials regarding proposed legislation NARFE is tracking, e.g., H.R. 711, Equal Treatment of Public Servants Act of 2015, which would reform the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP).
- Chapter Annual Food Drive – Lorie thanked members for their food and or cash donations at the March meeting – 102 pounds/food; \$90/cash. She received a thank you letter from the Tri-Cities Food Bank.
- Dust Devils game, June 18 – a group activity for chapter members. [Cost is \$8/per ticket; \$9/for handicap seating.] Lorie had a sign-up sheet at the meeting.
- Reminder: Check the back table for chapter and board meeting minutes, treasurer’s report, handouts, sign-up sheets, and other materials.

1st Vice President *Pat Turner.* No report.

2nd Vice President/Webmaster *Larry Williams.* No report.

Secretary/Sunshine/Newsletter/PR *Mary Binder.*

- Today is the 90th anniversary of the first commercial U.S. Air Mail flight. Mary referenced an article in today’s *Tri-City Herald*.
- The April 3, *Tri-City Herald* had an article about a Tri-City survey being conducted through April 11 soliciting input on what businesses readers wanted to see in this area. To access the “Most Wanted” survey, go to: bit.ly/Tri-CitiesMostWanted1. Ideas can also be emailed to: new@tricityherald.com. Mary said this is a good opportunity to voice opinions, ideas and suggestions.
- Articles/input are due to Mary by Friday, April 8, for the May/June chapter newsletter.
- Applications are due by April 29 for the 2016 NARFE Scholarship Program. The program is open to graduating high school seniors planning to attend college and who are related to NARFE members, e.g., children, step-children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, step-grandchildren, etc. Copies of the application were also on the back table.
- Senior Life Show is June 9, Three Rivers Convention Center. The chapter will have a table. This has been a good outreach opportunity to talk with prospective members, individuals who may have dropped their membership, etc.
- Blank cards and pens were on each table for those wanting to submit ideas/suggestions for future meeting programs.
- Copies of the new Visit Tri-Cities annual brochure were on each table along with copies of the current *Senior Pages*. The chapter is represented in both publications.

- Sunshine – member Norman Ravelly passed away recently. Jo Rice, a former WSFC secretary, recently passed away. Former member Nick Karagianes, passed recently. He had been living in Arizona. And, member Arlon Bold had surgery recently.

Treasurer's Report *Nancy Crosby.*

- Balance on hand as of February 29, \$10,822.84. March receipts were \$1,017.70 and disbursements, \$594.81, leaving a balance of \$11,245.73. Projected obligations are \$3,132.00, leaving an unobligated balance of \$8,113.73.
- Regarding the 2016 chapter budget, Nancy said the chapter is “in good shape.”
- **Monies collected at the April meeting** Luncheon, \$285 (19 paid; 3 comp'd); Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$33; NARFE-PAC, \$35; Newsletter, \$45; 50/50 Raffle, \$32/\$16 awarded (donated to NARFE-PAC).

District V Vice President *Nancy Crosby.*

- Nancy said she visited the Walla Walla and Yakima chapters in March. Both are “geared up” to help with the convention.
- Nancy updated members on the 2016 WSFC Convention, May 15-17, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick.
 - Registrations – at 86, but Nancy received more from chapter members at the meeting. Minimum to meet expenses is 100.
 - Volunteers – Nancy said she would soon be contacting members who had volunteered. [Anyone else wanting to volunteer can contact Nancy.]
 - Boosters – Nancy explained that a \$1 donation to become a “booster” helps offset convention expenses. Boosters names are in the program, unless they want to be anonymous. A booster list donation form was circulated at the meeting.
 - Solicitations from local businesses – Nancy said we're “doing pretty good.”
 - B-Reactor Tours – 2 tours are available to members, morning and afternoon, Wednesday, May 18. Nancy has the signup sheet.

Directors at Large *Steve Howes and Liz Bowers.* No report.

Alzheimer's *Chairman Bill Darke.*

- March – Bill received \$45 in donations at the chapter meeting, bringing the chapter's Alzheimer's account to \$149. **[Note: A balance is kept in the account to keep it open.]**
- In the current Washington federation Alzheimer's donation year, May 1 – April 30, the chapter has donated \$2,356, the 2nd highest amount in the chapter's history.
- At the end of February, NARFE had raised more than \$11.7 million dollars [since the program began in 1985]. The goal by the end of 2016 is \$12 million.
- There will be an Alzheimer's auction at the upcoming WSFC convention. Bill has 3 donated items, to date. Other donations are welcome.
- For donations of at least \$20, Bill has an Alzheimer's pin.

NARFE-PAC *Chairman Steve Howes.*

- March was NARFE-PAC month. Steve reported that he received \$140, bringing to \$191 the total donated at chapter meetings this calendar year.
- Steve highlighted comments from the April 1 email message to NARFE members from President Dick Thissen. During March, more than 3,500 members contributed to NARFE-PAC. While this is only a small fraction of NARFE's total membership [about 230,000], the donations brought NARFE closer to its \$1 million 2016 goal. Steve encouraged members to continue to donate, or consider donating if they've not previously done so.
- The chapter board approved extending the offer to the end of the year for a \$25 gift certificate to a member's restaurant of choice if they signed up as a sustainer.
- There will be a NARFE-PAC table at the upcoming WSFC convention. Steve said he may need help staffing the table.

Legislative *Mary Binder.* Mary said between state and federal legislative activities, besides the 2016 presidential elections, much has been happening.

- At the state level, the legislature has adjourned after its overtime session. Governor Inslee vetoed a record number of bills, but the legislature overrode many of those. Mary said she is looking forward to Jason Mercier's state legislative presentation at the WSFC convention!

- The state legislature did pass a budget, but local representative, Brad Klippert, voted against the budget.
- Mary said she received a letter from Representative Dan Newhouse dated March 30. In it he discussed H.R. 4730, the Unauthorized Spending Accountability Act, introduced by Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA). The letter encouraged members to support the legislation. Mary highlighted the last paragraph of the letter. Representative Newhouse wrote, "I hope you will be in contact As Congress debates government oversight and reform, as well as the many other important matters of importance to our country." This is also what NARFE encourages its members to do.
- For members having federal long-term care insurance, most premiums will rise in August. NARFE is providing information, including several webinars.
- The April *narfe* magazine has breakout information on state taxes – which states do not have an income tax, sales tax rates, etc.

Membership *Chairman Johanna Caylor.* No report.

Caller Coordinator *Pam Griffin.* No report.

OLD BUSINESS No old business.

NEW BUSINESS No new business.

Announcements No announcements.

Drawings Free lunch, Dennis Maupin; 50/50, \$16, Lorie Bennett (donated to the NARFE-PAC).

April Birthdays Yvonne Keel (member and Johanna Caylor's sister); Leon Bennett.

April Anniversaries Jim/Johanna Caylor, 40th!

Next Exec Board Meeting Tuesday, April 26, noon, Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. All members welcome to attend.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, May 4, noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick; doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch and business meeting begin at noon; program follows.

May Chapter Meeting Program Moore Mansion – owner Brad Peck will provide an overview of the mansion, including its history and restoration. **[Note: Brad will be providing this presentation as the Moore Mansion owner, not in his position as a Franklin County Commissioner.]**

MEETING ADJOURNED 12:47 p.m.

Program Mary Binder introduced the meeting's program speakers, Terry and Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers. The Maurers have been featured at the chapter's April meetings for more than 10 years. Now, our NARFE chapter is the only such presentation they still do! Members brought a variety of items for the Maurers to look at and discuss, including a first for them – a carved rosary. Other items included: a postcard album from a member's grandmother; several of a member's comic books from his childhood; a sweater-set collar with artificial pearls; a hand-painted chocolate pot with lid; a decorative box with "transferware;" a Little Soldiers "Learn Your ABCs;" and, a sterling silver pen from Tiffany Co. Terry explained that by "100 years and older" is used for classifying something as an "antique." Some of the items members brought may appear in Terry's future Sunday columns in the *Tri-City Herald*. At the conclusion, one member said, "Book them for next year!"

Prepared by:
Mary Alice Binder
 Secretary