

**NARFE Chapter 1192**  
**December 5, 2018 Chapter Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER** President Loire Bennett called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Washington.

- Lorie welcomed 21 members and 3 guests, and called for a moment of silence to remember our military, those in harm's way, the people affect by the Alaska earthquake, the fires in California, and the passing of George HW Bush the 41<sup>st</sup> President. She then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Guests were: Jeff Peterson and his wife who will be providing the entertainment today, and Bill Darke's wife Marilyn.

**OFFICER/FEDERATION/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

- Thank you for supporting the November's annual "white elephant" fundraiser.
- It is very important to continue to contact your elected officials to remind them to support NARFE and government retirees.
- Membership updates for Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor.
  - A reminder that NARFE's fall membership drive is September 1 thru December 31. Johanna is now "snowbirding," but will continue to work "membership."
- Health benefits open season/rate changes – copies of 2019 rate changes were available.

**REMINDERS:**

- Handouts were at each table for the upcoming NARFE Federal Benefits Institute webinars.
  - December 13 – Worry Free Estate Planning for Feds
  - 2019 schedule is not yet posted on the NARFE website.
- Members who do not cancel a confirmed luncheon reservation for the chapter meeting by 10 a.m. Monday before the meetings will be charged for the meal.
- Check the back table or the chapter website for minutes, newsletters, etc.
- Also check the website for lunch menus, meeting programs, newsletters.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** *Pat Turner. No report.*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Service Officer** *John Cavanaugh. No report.*

**Director at Large** *Nancy Crosby.*

- Nancy reported that the cost for meals during 2019 will stay at \$18. Nancy asked for feedback on the menu. At this point, the menu will remain the same as for 2018; but, the hotel chef is open to suggestions.

**Director at Large** *Bob Stewart. No report*

**Treasurer's Report** *Liz Bowers.*

- Balance on hand as of November 7, \$16,704.93. Income: \$638.22. Expenses: \$492.86. Balance on hand as of December 4, \$16,850.29.
- Liz reported that, to date, the chapter is at 80.2% of its projected income budget and 82.6% of the projected expenses.
- Liz said she has a proposed 2019 chapter budget.
- **Monies collected at the December Meeting** Luncheon, \$472; NARFE-PAC, \$21; 50/50, \$48 (\$24 donated to Alzheimer's Research); general donations, \$22.

**Secretary/Sunshine** *Secretary Faye Vlieger.*

- Sunshine:
  - A condolences card was sent to Joanne Shadel on the passing of her father, a thinking of you card to Betty Maupin, a condolences card will be sent to Bob Stewart on the passing of his mother-in-law, and a condolences card will be sent to the family of Art Lassila's family.
  - Reminder: Please continue to send "sunshine" updates to Secretary Faye.

### **Newsletter/Public Relations** *Mary Binder*

- Chapter newsletter:
  - January/February newsletter will be finalized and distributed by the end of December.
  - Hidden numbers – Mary reminded members to check for their number, and that at least one person at the meeting had his/her number in this edition.
- The theme of the Visit TRI-CITIES Annual Meeting on November 1 was “A Tourism Emergency.” It was an attention getter with a video of the staff doing their jobs away from their offices so it was an “emergency” because the executive director did not know where his staff was.
- Mary, Nancy and Pat attended the November monthly TCRCC meeting that was an update on the area’s ports.
- 2019 NARFE/FEEA Scholarship Program – applications are due March 25, 3 PM EDT.
- 2019 NARFE Photo Contest, August 1 thru April 8 – Theme: “Living in the USA”. Mary reminded members there was a handout on the back table with details. Photos selected in the contest are used for NARFE’s annual calendar and notecards.
- A reminder that the health benefits Open Season ends December 10.
- Mary said there was an article recently in the *Tri-City Herald* about financial challenges for an area’s children’s museum. The chapter had a presentation on the initiative at the June 2016 chapter meeting [by Lara Hastings with Hands in for Hands On.]

### **Legislative** *Mary Binder.*

- **LEGcon19**, March 10-13, Washington D.C. Registration ends December 15. This is NARFE’s biennial legislative training conference. It coincides with the beginning of a new Congress. Currently Mary, Lorie Bennett, Nancy Crosby and Pat Turner are planning to attend. The chapter and federation are planning on providing “scholarships” to help offset the costs for members to attend.
- Congressman Newhouse remarried on November 30.
- Congress approved a 2-week extension to continue working toward approving a budget and avoiding a partial government shutdown. Still undecided is the 1.9% pay raise for government employees. If not approved, employees would not receive a raise in 2019.
- OPM is looking for a new contractor to work the “data breach” issue. In the interim, coverage continues for those affected.
- State Updates – Frank Chopp the longest serving Washington State Speaker of the House announced on November 27 that he will be stepping down as speaker after the 2019 congressional session.

### **WSF:** *Nancy Crosby, Mary Binder, Lorie Bennett.*

- President Nancy:
  - The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 6, La Quinta Hotel, Tacoma. Nancy, Mary and Lorie expect to attend. The new budget will be discussed.
  - Nancy announced that Jessica Klement, NARFE’s legislative director, has been invited to speak at the Region IX Training Conference, May 17-18, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick.
  - Region IX Training Conference will be May 17 -18. More information will be provided as it becomes available.
- District V VP Mary:
  - The Walla Walla chapter is officially closed, and the final transactions are in progress.
  - The Yakima Chapter has a new meeting location and has approximately 70 members.

- Alzheimer's Chairman Lorie:
  - A great job was done with fund raising through October 31, \$12,867,484.07 towards the \$13M biennial goal for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.

**NARFE-PAC** *Bob Stewart*. Bob said that Chapter collection through November were \$331. Today we collected \$22. The total including sustainers through September was \$ 2,042. More details are in the chapter newsletter [and on the NARFE website].

**Alzheimer's** *Larry Williams*.

- November NARFE Alzheimer's "white elephant" fundraiser total more than \$2,150.
  - The coat check room at the Wine Festival collected \$356 in Donations.
- Membership** *Johanna Caylor*. (See President's report, above.)
- Webmaster** *Larry Williams*. No report.
- Caller Coordinator** *Darleen Wall*. No report.

**OLD BUSINESS** None.

**NEW BUSINESS** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** None.

**Free Lunch Drawing** *Pat Turner*.

**50/50 Drawing** \$48 collected, \$24 won by Larry Williams and donated it to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund, and \$28 was collected in the donation bowl for a total of \$52.

**December Birthdays** Nancy Glaesemann,

**December Anniversaries** Liz Bowers and Dana Kranz

**Next Exec Board Meeting** Immediately following the today's chapter meeting, Red Lion Hotel. All welcome.

**Next Chapter Meeting** Wednesday, January 2, noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick; doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch and business meeting begin at noon; program follows.

**January Chapter Meeting Program** Eastern Washington Better Business Bureau – Danielle Kane will provide a presentation on consumer awareness.

**Closing Remarks** *President Lorie Bennet* – Lorie wished everyone a Merry Christmas, and New Year.

**MEETING CLOSED** 12:38 p.m.

Prepared by:  
*Faye Vlieger*  
*Secretary*

**CHAPTER MEETING PROGRAM** Jeff Peterson and his mellow trumpet provided a holiday music program.