

NARFE Chapter 1192
December 4, 2019 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 1st Vice President Pat Turner called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. She reminded attendees to silence their electronic devices.

- Pat called for a moment of silence for all who are struggling to find food and shelter; for our military and civilians defending us and our country; and for our NARFE leaders and members. She then led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Pat welcomed 20 members and 4 guests, member Bill Darke's wife, Marilyn, Randy Grekowicz's wife Fia, and our Christmas music entertainment Jeff Peterson and his wife.

OFFICER/FEDERATION/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President 1st Vice President Pat Turner.

- Nancy Crosby gave an update on Mary Binder. She is recuperating from a brain aneurysm that occurred last month and is in Seattle Harborview Hospital. Her family has asked that she not be contacted, but that all cards be sent to her brother. Copies of his address are available on the back table.
- The installation of the new officers will be done today under new business.
- FEHB Program Open Season will be Monday, November 11, to Monday, December 9.
 - Copies of the 2020 rate schedules were available at the meeting.
 - Information about Open Season is also in the November/December *narfe* magazine.
- **REMINDERS:**
- The Census Bureau is still looking for part-time workers. A handout was available.
- The Combined Federal Campaign is September 9 to January 12. A handout was available.
- NARFE Federal Benefits Institute webinars, 2 p.m., Eastern Time.
 - Estate Planning for Feds – Protect Your Assets, December 12th register online.
 - Past Webinars are available on the NARFE Website.
 - The full schedule is on the NARFE website.
- Starting in January 2020 the cost of the luncheon will be \$20.
- Members who do not cancel a confirmed luncheon reservation for the chapter meeting by 10:00 a.m., the Monday before the meeting, will be charged the meal cost.
- Check the side table or the chapter website for minutes, newsletters, etc.
- Also check the website for lunch menus and meeting programs.

1st Vice President Pat Turner.

- Pat thanked all of the volunteers who worked the coat check at the 41st Tri-Cities Wine Festival, on Saturday, November 16th. There were plenty of volunteers, and due to the colder weather, the coat check room was busy.

2nd Vice President/Service Officer Vacant. No report.

Director at Large Nancy Crosby. No report.

Director at Large Bob Stewart. No report.

Treasurer's Report Liz Bowers.

- 2020 Budget update: We will be doing the 2020 budget differently in that we are dividing items between the essential versus nonessential categories. Essential items will include items such as our liability insurance, website charge, lunches, and newsletters. Nonessential items will include items such as outreach, some membership related items like mailing the distinguished members their pins and certificates, and some of our conference attendance reimbursements. This will allow us to establish a base budget and then add the various nonessential items throughout the year as the Board determines needs and funding constraints.
- Liz reported that the chapter's savings and checking accounts combined balance at the end of November was \$16,475.76. December income, \$525.00; expenses, \$496.05. Ending balance, \$16,504.71.

- Monies collected at the December Meeting: Luncheon, \$360; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$17; newsletter, \$3; 50/50, \$24 collected/\$12 awarded, and donated to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund; general donations, \$7. NARFE PAC \$6.

Secretary/Sunshine *Faye Vlieger.*

- Faye reported that sympathy cards were sent for Margret Walker and Linda Romine. Get Well cards were distributed and signed by the members at the meeting to send to Mary Binder. It was reported at the meeting that Myrna Partida's mother passed away.

Newsletter/Public Relations *Nancy Crosby.*

- Nancy called for members to volunteer for various jobs in the chapter.
- January/February chapter newsletter is to be determined. Provide any information to Nancy by December 15th.
 - Members who are receiving a mailed copy, consider receiving an electronic copy as it saves the chapter postage.
- November 12, Visit Tri-Cities Annual Meeting, Three Rivers Convention Center – Mary, Pat and Nancy attended.
- November 20, monthly luncheon/meeting, Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce, Red Lion, Pasco. Scheduled guest speaker was Vicky Sharlau, executive director, Columbia Basin Development League. Her presentation was an overview and update on the Columbia Basin Project: Irrigation isn't just for Farmers. The speaker discussed the diminishing water resources in the Columbia Valley. Mary, Nancy and Pat attended.
- December 18th Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce, the guest speaker is General Mattis at the Three Rivers Convention Center at 11:30 a.m. Nancy and Pat are attending.
- The annual NARFE photo contest is August 1 through April 7, 2020. This year's theme – "Home Sweet Home." NARFE wants to know what that means to you. Handouts with information were available.

Legislative *Nancy Crosby*

- Federal – many retirees will receive a 1.6% COLA in 2020. The increase will first appear in your February annuity payments.
- Members are urged to contact your congressional representative to support the elimination of the WEP. Use the NARFE Legislative Action Center to send the messages.
- There is a mandatory two step authentication for TSP.gov access by the end of 2019. Instructions are in the *narfe* magazine.

NARFE-PAC *Nancy Crosby for Bob Stewart.* Bob was not able to attend the meeting.

- NARFE PAC contributions: Congressman Derek Kilmer received \$500, Congressman Dan Newhouse received \$1,000, Congresswoman Kim Shrier received \$1,000 in this congressional cycle, which reflected their support to NARFE.

WSF President *Nancy Crosby*

Federation Board Meeting scheduled for December 12, 2019

- The 2020 WSF conference is scheduled for May 19-21, Embassy Suites by Hilton, Seattle North, Lynnwood.
 - There will be an election for officers prior to the conference. Election information is posted on the federation website, www.narfe.org, President Nancy sent an nomination announcement to those federation members with an email address in the NARFE database.
 - The federation will provide a \$50 "scholarship" for federation members who attend to help offset costs.
- **FEDcon20** national conference is scheduled for August 30 to September 1, Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, Scottsdale, Arizona. There is an announcement on page 22, November *narfe* magazine about the conference. More information will follow in the new year.
- WSF Vice President Mary Binder – Absent.
- WSF District V Vice President Mary – Absent.
- WSF Alzheimer's Chairman – Lorie Bennett - Absent

Alzheimer's *Larry Williams.*

- The Chapter "white elephant" fund raiser for Alzheimer's Research totaled \$2,575.
- The Walk to End Alzheimer's raised \$450. Larry, Randy, Fia, and Chuck all walked: Mary, Nancy and Pat all donated but did not walk.
- The 41st Tri-Cities Wine Festival coatroom fund raiser totaled \$410.
- The Alzheimer's magazine is a free subscription. Information on how to subscribe was available at the meeting, and in the newsletter.

Webmaster *Larry Williams.* No report.

Membership *Johanna Caylor.* Johanna:

- Reminder! Fall NARFE membership drive, September 1st through December 31st.
 - Recruiters earn \$10 for each new member they recruit.
 - See page 44, of the August *narfe* magazine for more information.
- Johanna has sent letters, certificates and pins to those out-of-town/state members who are now NARFE "distinguished members." Thanks to donated postage these were sent at no cost to the chapter. After the holidays she'll work on recognizing those local members who also qualify as "distinguished members."
- Johanna has a supply of new recruiting material for anyone who needs it. She also suggested giving "gift memberships" to friends and relatives!

Caller Coordinator *Darleen Wall.* No report.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS

- New officers were installed. WSF President Nancy Crosby installed Pat Turner as Chapter President and Liz Bowers as Chapter Treasurer. President Pat Turner installed Nancy Crosby as Chapter Vice President.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Carl Gallion recently got a motorized wheelchair and is doing well.

Free Lunch Drawing Chuck Clayton.

50/50 Drawing June Ollero, \$24 collected, \$12 awarded and given to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.

November Birthdays Nancy Glaesemann.

November Anniversaries Liz Bowers, 47 years.

Next Exec Board Meeting January 6, Zintel Creek Golf Club, Kennewick [location tentative]. All welcome.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, January 8, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick; doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch and business meeting begin at noon; program follows.

January Chapter Meeting Program Dr. Kannan Krishnaswami, Technology Commercialization Manager at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Closing Remarks *President Pat Turner.*

- Members present voted we continue to provide the member name tags at each meeting.
- Are you and your home, and vehicle ready for winter? Be safe and watch your step on icy walkways.
- **Merry Christmas!**

MEETING CLOSED 12:44 p.m.

Prepared for Secretary *Faye Vlieger*

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